

Kinship Care Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland · Charity number 101036

Details

Known as Kinship Care NI

Status Received

Registered 2014-12-04

Register [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

Contact

Address Kinship Care Ni
67 Carlisle Road
Derry/Londonderry
Northern Ireland
Bt48 6jl
BT48 6JL

Phone 02871373731

Email info@kinshipcareni.com

Website www.kinshipcareni.com

Activities

Purposes: The group is established for the following charitable purposes: i) the advancement of support to kinship children and their caregivers; ii) the prevention and relief of poverty; iii) the advancement of education amongst children and young people in kinship care; iv) the advancement of citizenship and community development, and; v) the relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability and financial hardship.

What the charity does: The prevention or relief of poverty, The advancement of education, The advancement of citizenship or community development, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

How the charity works: Advice/advocacy/information, Community development, Community enterprise, Counselling/support, Cross-border/cross-community, Education/training, Grant making, Relief of poverty, Volunteer development, Youth development

Who the charity helps: Carers, Children (5-13 year olds), Older people, Preschool (0-5 year olds), Unemployed/low income, Volunteers, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£922,982	£943,329	£-5,332	16

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Paul McMinn		
Mrs Alice Diver		
Ms Brenda Stevenson		
Ms Charmaine Allen		
Ms Denise McDonald		
Ms Jeanette Irvine		
Ms Margaret Ogilvie		
Ms Tina Gardiner		

Kinship Care Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101036

Accounts

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
(A company limited by guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland No. NIC101036
Company No. NI602969

**Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
Legal and Administrative Information

Reference details

Charity Name:	Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
Charity Registration Number:	NIC01036
Company Registration Number:	NI602969

Registered Office and

Operational Address: 67 Carlisle Road, L'Derry BT48 6JL

Directors as at 31 March 2025

Brenda Stevenson
Paul McMinn
Margaret Ogilvie
Tina Gardiner
Alice Diver
Dolores Farren
Jeanette Irvine
Denise McDonald
Charmaine Allen

Company Secretary

Jacqueline Williamson, MBE

Auditors

L Duffy & Co., 12 Queen Street, L'Derry, BT48 7EG

Solicitors

Daniel McLaughlin, Babington and Croasdale Solicitors, 9 Limavady Road, L'Derry, BT47 6JU
Georgina McKinney, Quigley, Grant & Kyle Solicitors, 10 Queen Street, L'Derry, BT48 7EG

Bankers

Danske Bank Ltd, 6 Shipquay Place, L'Derry, BT48 6DF

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2025

The Directors who are also Trustees under provisions of the Companies Act 2006 present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

Governing Document

Kinship Care Northern Ireland (known as 'Kinship Care NI') is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on the 27th April 2010 and accepted as a charity by the Inland Revenue. The company was registered with the new Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (Regulator of Charities in Northern Ireland) on the 4th December 2014.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. The number of members at the 31st March 2025 was 9.

The charitable objects of the charity are, i) the advancement of support to kinship carers and their children; ii) the prevention and relief of poverty; iii) the advancement of education amongst children and young people in kinship care; iv) the advancement of citizenship and community development, and; v) the relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability and financial hardship.

Principal Activities

Kinship Care NI's mission is to help and support children who cannot be cared for by their own parents to live safely and securely within their own families and communities. Kinship Care NI plays a key role in the development and delivery of services for kinship families and is the only organisation in Northern Ireland which focuses exclusively on helping and supporting kinship carers and the children they care for.

Objectives and Activities

Kinship Care NI believe kinship carers, both formal and informal should have access to the help and support they need to assist them in the care and upbringing of their family and friends children. Kinship Care NI responds to the needs of kinship carers and the children in their care through the provision of advice and information and a range of support services. These services are aimed at reducing the stigma and isolation many kinship carers experience in their day to day lives and building the confidence, self esteem and resilience of children in kinship care. It is our commitment that children in kinship care receive the very best start in life, and children who have experienced the loss or removal of their parents achieve personal happiness and well being, and fulfil their potential.

Our long-term commitment is that every kinship carer, irrespective of where they live, or the legal status of the arrangement will have access to a range of support services to help and support them in their kinship role. We will continue to evaluate our services alongside our stakeholders, funders, volunteers, kinship carers and their children and continue to offer kinship carers and their children a voice and choice as to how services can meet their needs.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Services Delivered

- 2,086 people came through our 5 Kinship Care Centres.
- Handled 703 calls via our Caring for Kin telephone helpline.
- Provided emergency food packages and essentials via our Helping Hand and Good Help Projects to 406 carers/individuals and 615 children and young people..
- Secured £107,055 in social security benefit/other financial support for kinship carers, lifting them and the children they care for out of situations of severe poverty.
- Provided advice to 138 kinship carers on their legal and financial entitlements.
- Engaged 878 children in group activities.
- Engaged 202 children in our Good Help Education Project.
- Engaged 68 young people in structured activities via our THRIVE Project.
- Delivered 48 Summer Activities to 413 carers and 689 children and young people.
- Provided advice, information and support to 58 children via our Advocacy Service.
- 513 kinship carers and 598 children engaged in services via our 'Kinnections' Project.
- Engaged 206 carers and 188 children and young people in structured support, including training and family recreation via our Cairng for Carers Project.
- Engaged 104 children in one to one support.
- Engaged 74 children in play based activities via our Children's Support Service
- Engaged 14 sibling carers and 29 children in our Together Forever Project for older brothers and sisters caring for their younger siblings and a further 68 children in sibling time activities.
- Provided toys and gifts to 874 children in kinship care and 177 children in the community at Christmas and distributed vouchers and in-kind support to 58 families in respect of 112 children.
- Provided Hampers to 89 families and supported 191 older people in the community through our Kindness Appeal at Christmas.
- Established new Kin Together Support Groups in Bangor, Ballynahinch, Downpatrick and Newcastle
- Continued our School of Confidence Futures Project and engaged 178 young people in CPD accredited training, workshops and work taster sessions.
- Engaged 89 children and young people from different backgrounds and communities in 3 x PEACEPLUS Projects (Strabane Youth, Rural Teens and Sperrin Voices Projects).
- Engaged 11 children in weekly Grandparent and Toddler sessions and delivered 9 Confidence Building Programmes to 86 young people ('Youth Champions', Kreative Kins and . Mini Kins')
- Engaged 203 kinship carers in 'Kin Together' support group meetings and activities.
- Delivered training, workshops and information sessions to 144 kinship carers.
- Delivered befriending and emotional support to 108 kinship carers/children in their own homes.
- Supported 46 children, engaging them in one to one support and structured programmes and activities via our Me and My Family Project.
- Recruited and trained and supported 41 volunteers and 7 sessional workers.
- Provided 303 individuals and families with free items via our Kindness of Strangers shop.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2025

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- Held Information Days, Coffee Mornings and fundraising events to raise awareness of kinship care and attended numerous Cost of Living events.
- Commissioned Dr. Katrina Collins (Collins Consultancy) to carry out an evaluation of our Helping Hand Project and Caring for Carers Project.
- Shared our learning of kinship care through various workshops and groups, including Family Support Hub Meetings, Helplines Network NI Awareness Day, Good Help Workshops and articles in the Derry Journal, Derry News, Mid Ulster Mail.
- Worked alongside Global Film Makers to capture the voices, views and experiences of young people engaged in our Helping Hand Project.
- Celebrated International Women's Day, Social Value Week, Volunteer Week, Small Charity Week, Entrepreneurship Week and #socialsaturday.
- Increased our social media presence on Facebook and Twitter.

Our services work in partnership with local organisations, including social service departments. For example, in L'Derry our Children's Support Service and Kinship Care Support Service work closely with the Gateway Team, Family Intervention Service, Family and Kinship Fostering Team to support kinship carers and children and young people who are struggling to come to terms with the loss or removal of their parents. In Magherafelt our 'Caring for Kin' Project works with solicitors, the Social Security Agency, Health Visitors and schools and receives referrals from a range of community sector organisations. Our 'Kinnections' and Caring for Carers Projects receive referrals from social work professionals across Northern Ireland and social sector organisations working with disadvantaged children and families in the community.

Achievements and Performance

Throughout the year Kinship Care NI continued to provide advice, information, support and family recreation to kinship carers and their children across Northern Ireland. Our helpline and 'Kin Together' Support Groups have been instrumental in engaging kinship carers, particularly grandparents and older kinship carers who feel isolated and have little in the way of family support.

Evide Impact Tracker (Case Management Tool) and New Philanthropy Capital's Well Being Measures are used across all our projects and services to measure and evaluate our impact on the outcomes of children, young people and their carers. Surveys, comment cards, focus groups, video diaries and testimonials are also used to measure the impact of interventions on the overall wellbeing of kinship carers and the children they care for. 'Quizzdom' is also used to gather feedback from children and young people engaged in services.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Helpline

Over the course of the year 703 calls were handled by our helpline. Following one call made to helpline based on completed helpline surveys (n = 132):-

88% of kinship carers said they felt more confident.

89% of kinship carers understood their situation better.

84% of kinship carers reported feeling less isolated.

86% of kinship carers felt that their problem was sorted out.

15% of kinship carers still felt unsure.

Based on questions asked at the end of calls to the helpline (n = 133):-

87% rated the Helpline as "Excellent".

85% said the information they received was useful and of good quality.

90% said staff members understood their needs.

Evaluations

Throughout the year we evaluated our impact on the financial, social and emotional of carers and their children. Carers were asked to complete a short questionnaire and wellbeing to outline how we responded to their needs and the quality of support they received.

Based on questions asked at the end of support sessions/home visits and one to one support via Zoom or telephone (n = 206) 85% of carers said they had experienced an improvement in their overall wellbeing and 308 carers who received support via our Good Help and Helping Projects said their financial well-being had improved.

Other (Surveys, Focus Groups, Comment Cards, Testimonials)

87% of kinship carers attending Kin Together Support Groups said they felt less isolated and 82% of kinship carers reported an improvement in their emotional/social wellbeing (n = 166).

81% of kinship carers said the training they received was of good quality and 88% said they would recommend our training to other kinship carers (n = 97).

100% of kinship carers who received a grant reported an improvement in family life (n = 406).

85% of children reported an improvement in their confidence and 86% reported an improvement in their emotional well-being (n=146).

82% of children said they had had a say in decisions affecting their lives (n=85).

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2025

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During the course of the year, 55 volunteers made a huge impact on the lives of children and young people – 9,003 hours of their time (worth £108,036 to the organisation).

Volunteering at Kinship Care NI produces a tangible return for society, not only in terms of keeping children within their own families, but also helping children in kinship care fulfil their potential. We are enormously dependent on the contribution of volunteers and extremely grateful for their dedication. We are also grateful to the many trusts, foundations, businesses and individuals who have been so generous in their support of Kinship Care NI. We thank you for the many ways you have shown your commitment to us, for your encouragement and shared understanding of the importance of our work. Each gift, no matter how big or small, whether time or money makes a difference to our work with kinship carers and the children they care for.

During the year we focused on meeting the support needs of children and young people coming through our Kinship Care Centres for support, including youngsters referred by social services, GP's and community and voluntary sector organisations. We also received several grants from Cash for Kids to meet the emergency needs of children and young people in kinship care.

Support was also provided by the LFT Charitable Trust, American Ireland Fund and the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland (Carers Fund, BC&P Fund and RTE Toy Show Appeal) to allow us to support carers and individuals in the community hit hardest by rising food and energy costs.

During the year income from charitable trusts and foundations helped support a variety of programmes and services for children, young people and their carers. We would like to thank the media and members of the public for highlighting and responding to individual appeals, including appeals for food, clothes, toys and household items for children who came to live with members of their extended family in very difficult and traumatic circumstances. Our funders and everyone who gives us gifts in kind and donations for children and young people have helped get us to where we are today. We are extremely grateful for your generosity and support.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Sharing Our Learning

Throughout the year we collaborated with 108 organisations and shared our learning of the needs and experiences of kinship carers and the children they care for. We are members of the All Party Group for Children and Young People, the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Young Carers Sub-Group, the Adoption and Children's Bill Stakeholder Group and CO3's Health and Social Care Special Interest Group. Over the course of the year we further developed our relationship with the Department of Health and 5 Health and Social Care Trusts to raise the profile of kinship care and ensure the needs of children and their carers are not overlooked in forthcoming policy developments.

Kinship Care NI sit on 5 Family Support Hubs in the Western Trust, 5 in the Northern Trust, 3 in the Belfast Trust, 1 in the South Eastern Trust and 1 in the Southern Trust. These Hubs comprise a multi-agency network of organisations working with disadvantaged families. Through our involvement with these networks we share our knowledge and expertise of kinship care and improve awareness of the support needs of kinship families living in the community. Over the course of the year we met with politicians, policy makers and social service professionals and engaged them in discussion about the many challenges experienced by kinship carers and how their needs could be best met moving forward.

Across all our projects and services we use several outcome frameworks to measure, monitor and evaluate our impact in supporting kinship carers and their children. Kinship care can be complex and the support needs of carers and the children they care for are very different to other families. Evidencing our work has raised awareness of the services we offer and provided a better understanding of the importance of kinship care as an early intervention for children and their families.

We seized every opportunity to inform others of our work and the many achievements of children and young people in kinship care. 5,809 copies of our bi-monthly newsletter 'Kinship News' were distributed to individuals and organisations. 7,890 emails/letters went out informing of our services, events, achievements and successes.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Plans for Future Periods

In 2025/26 we will continue to develop and deliver high quality, responsive and inclusive services to kinship carers and children and young people in kinship care and work with kinship carers to identify the types of support they need and want in a way which promotes the best interests of the children and young people they care for. We will listen to and act on the voices of children and young people and ensure their voices are heard, valued, respected and listened to, and seize every opportunity to celebrate the achievements and successes of children, young people and their carers.

We will further develop our support services and develop a range of awareness raising literature to ensure kinship carers have information on their rights and entitlements when raising a family or friends child. We will continue to consult with children and young people in kinship care to ensure all projects and services are in keeping with their needs and aspirations, ensuring the voices of children, young people are heard. We will ensure risk is well understood and managed and that the charity is operating legally, that we are maximising our income and operating in full compliance with our charitable objectives, ethos and values.

Recruitment and Appointment of Directors

The Directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. The traditional business skills, along with service users, community and voluntary groups are well represented on the Board of Directors and the Directors are requested to provide an updated list of skills they are able to bring to the company each year and in the event of particular skills being lost due to retirements, individuals are approached to offer themselves for election to the Board of Directors.

Trustees Induction and Training

New trustees are invited to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. Briefing sessions jointly led by the Chairperson and the Chief Executive cover:

- The obligations of trustees.
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity, including the memorandum and articles.
- Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts.
- Future plans and objectives as set out in the charity's Strategic Plan 2025-28.

All Trustees receive an Enhanced Access NI check and training on Child Protection, Vulnerable Adults, Lone Working, Health and Safety, Complaints and Equal Opportunities. Training on Good Governance, Managing Performance, Risk Management, Strategic Planning and GDPR is also provided to Trustees.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Risk Management

The Board of Trustees conduct on a regular basis a review of major risks to which the charity is exposed. This review is updated annually. Where appropriate, systems and procedures are established or updated to mitigate the risks the charity faces. Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a new Fundraising Strategy and the establishment of three social enterprises to allow for alternative funding methods for the charity's activities. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of comprehensive procedures for the authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety rules for staff, volunteers and visitors. All policies and procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure they meet with the needs of the charity and changes to the law.

Organisational Structure

The Board of Directors meets 6 times a year and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. The trustees have ultimate legal and financial responsibility for the affairs of Kinship Care NI, although the management of the organisation has generally been delegated to the staff, through the Chief Executive (Jacqueline Williamson).

Formal Objectives and Activities

The company's objects and principal activities are to:

- Work for the assistance of persons involved in a kinship care arrangement.
- Promote any charitable purpose directed to alleviating problems associated with kinship care arrangements.
- Advance public education in factors associated with kinship care.
- Provide individual and group support to kinship carers and their children.
- Raise awareness amongst the general public of factors associated with kinship care.
- Provide a support service to those who are currently involved with a person undertaking or involved in kinship care.
- Provide and equip premises and centres required for the purposes of the company to organise, sponsor and conduct educational and training courses and meetings, conferences and exhibitions.
- Publish and distribute materials relating to the work of the company.
- Collect, coordinate and make available (by publication or any form of communication) information relative to the activities of the company.
- Receive and administer and allocate grants and gifts available to the company under the terms and conditions attached to such grants and gifts.
- Act as trustees and to undertake or accept any such tasks or responsibilities which will advance the objects of the company

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Winding Up

Upon the winding up or dissolution of the company, any surplus shall be given to some other body, institution or institutions charitable in law and having objects similar to the objects of Kinship Care NI, which also prohibit the distribution of income or property to its members. No sum whatsoever shall be distributed to members of the company.

Financial Review

Results

The company had a surplus on unrestricted funds for the year ended 31st March 2025 of £29,358 (surplus of £465,295 for year ended 31st March 2024). During the year to the 31st March 2025 the company was in receipt of grants from the Henry Smith Charity and the Trusthouse Foundation in respect of specified services to be provided to kinship carers and their children in areas across Northern Ireland.

Fundraising

Most funding to date has come from charitable trusts and foundations via applications made by the Chief Executive with input from Trustees and staff. The Board of Trustees have delegated responsibility for fundraising, including areas of revenue fundraising to the Chief Executive who reports regularly to Trustees on the financial and fundraising performance of the organisation.

The LFT Charitable Trust, the Trusthouse Foundation, Department of Justice, Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, American Ireland Fund, National Lottery Fund and RTE Toy Show Appeal made a substantial contribution to the work of Kinship Care NI by funding our Me and My Family Project, Good Help Project, Helping Hand Project and Caring for Carers Project. Funding was also secured via Derry City and Strabane District Council for 3 x PEACEPLUS Projects - namely Strabane Youth Project, Rural Teens Project and Sperrin Voices Project. All Projects are up and running with 89 young people engaged in structured programmes and activities.

Five key strategies have been identified as priority focuses for the forthcoming year:-

1. Diversification – diversify the fundraising base of Kinship Care NI to reduce dependency on key grants.
2. New Activity – plan, deliver and learn from a new fundraising activity through a Crowd Funding event.
3. Expansion – consider, plan, deliver and develop a strategy for locating in Belfast and the Republic of Ireland.
4. Corporate Donators – grow the understanding of Kinship Care NI's work and identify new corporate donors outside of Derry/Londonderry.
5. Volunteer Support – grow the understanding of volunteers in Kinship Care NI's work and its impact.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Investment Policy

Any surplus funds and grants received in advance are placed on deposit until such time as they are required for day to day expenditure.

Reserves Policy

Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be 3 months of total cost. Each year the Trustees review the policy for maintaining free reserves taking into account the major risks faced by the charity. The likely impact on income and planned expenditure includes a review of the planned expenditure and expected incomes and an assessment of the ways to mitigate such risks.

At 31st March 2025 the company had reserves of 29,358

Risk Review

Internal controls are in place to monitor all forms of income, assets, commitment and expenditure. Performance is monitored and appropriate information is prepared and regularly reviewed by the Chief Executive and Board of Trustees. The charity currently produces an annual budget and reports six weekly against that budget. Updated financial forecasting is undertaken during the year to reflect new service developments and their impact on income and expenditure. The principal risk facing the charity is the uncertain external economic environment and the need to sustain services once funding from the Big Lottery Fund comes to an end. The Trustees confirm that they have identified and fully understand the risks to which the charity is subject and that systems are in place to manage these risks.

Employment of Disabled Persons

The company is committed to a policy of recruitment and promotion on the basis of aptitude and ability without negative discrimination of any kind. Kinship Care NI actively pursues both the employment of disabled persons whenever a suitable vacancy arises and the continued employment and retraining of employees who become disabled whilst employed by the charity. Where a current employee or volunteer becomes disabled due to illness or injury the charity, wherever possible and reasonable, will provide assistance with rehabilitation, adaptation to premises, modification of equipment, provision of special aids, job structuring, retraining and/or redeployment

Employees

Kinship Care NI is lucky to have an exceptional team of 16 dedicated staff, whose support has been invaluable in developing and delivering services to children and young people, their carers and families. Over the year, Kinship Care NI made great efforts to ensure employees were kept informed about and involved in the direction of the charity.

Plans for Future Periods

The charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the Directors of Kinship Care NI to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources, including income and expenditure for the financial year.

In preparing those accounts, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that Kinship Care NI will continue on that basis.

The Directors are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the relevant Companies legislation. The Directors are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities

Members of the Board of Directors

Members of the Board of Directors who are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law, and who were directors at 31 March 2025 are set out on page 3.

Auditors

L Duffy & Co. have expressed their willingness to continue as auditors.

Approved by the Directors on the 2nd May 2025 and signed on their behalf by:-



Brenda Stevenson (Chair)



Paul McMinn (Treasurer)

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including the Charities SORP (FR102).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including the Charities SORP (FR102); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report (Report of The Directors), other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

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statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information we require for the audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 66 of that Act.

We have undertaken the audit in accordance with the requirements of FRC Ethical Standards including FRC Ethical Standard – Provisions Available for Audits of Small Entities, in the circumstances set out in note 18 to the financial statements.

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2025
...continued

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We considered the risk of fraud through management override, and in response we incorporated testing of their use of accounting estimates, and remained sceptical throughout the audit.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

...continued

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Mr Laurie Duffy
(Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of
L Duffy & Co
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor



2 May 2025

L Duffy & Co are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the companies Act 2006

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

**Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
Year Ended 31 March 2025**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies					
- Grants	2		335,944	335,944	157,040
- Gifts and donations	3	72,902		72,902	137,672
Other Trading Activities					
-Charitable shop income	4	226,312	285,421	511,733	661,498
Investment Income		2,403	0	2,403	2,108
Total Incoming resources		301,617	621,365	922,982	958,318
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	474,106	55,000	529,106	523,019
Charitable activities	6	111,856	295,976	407,832	341,099
Other	7	1,591	4,800	6,391	7,623
Total Resources Expended		587,553	355,776	943,329	871,741
Net Incoming Resources/(Deficit)	6	(285,936)	265,589	(20,347)	86,577
Transfer between funds		(150,000)	150,000		
Net movement in funds		(435,936)	415,589	(20,347)	86,577
Opening Reserves		465,294	155,789	621,083	534,506
Total Funds Carried Forward	17	29,358	571,378	600,736	621,083

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd


Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Notes	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	10		0		0
Current Assets					
Debtors	11		0		0
Cash at Bank and in Hand	12		<u>606,068</u>		<u>627,669</u>
			606,068		627,669
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13		<u>5,332</u>		<u>6,586</u>
Net Current Assets			<u>600,736</u>		<u>621,083</u>
Net Assets	14		<u><u>600,736</u></u>		<u><u>621,083</u></u>
Funds of the Charity					
Unrestricted Funds	15		29,358		465,294
Restricted Funds	16		<u>571,378</u>		<u>155,789</u>
Total Funds	17		<u><u>600,736</u></u>		<u><u>621,083</u></u>

Approved by the Directors on the 2 May 2025 and signed on their behalf by



Brenda Stevenson
Chairperson



Paul McMinn
Treasurer

The notes on pages 21 to 26 form part of these financial statements

Company Registration Number: NI602969

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Statement of cash flows for year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flow from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		(24,004)	86,080
Cash flow from investing activities			
Interest received		<u>2,403</u>	<u>2,108</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in year		(21,601)	88,188
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		<u>627,669</u>	<u>539,481</u>
		<u>606,068</u>	<u>627,669</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities			
Net income/(expenditure)		(20,347)	86,577
Interest received		(2,403)	(2,108)
Movement in creditors		<u>(1,254)</u>	<u>1,611</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>(24,004)</u>	<u>86,080</u>

1. Accounting policies

General information and basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

Fixed assets

The charity only capitalises tangible fixed assets if costing more than £5,000. Otherwise, they are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The charity has acquired no fixed assets at the Balance Sheet Date.

Debtors

Debtors are stated after all known bad debts have been written off and specific provision has been made against all debtors considered doubtful of collection.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy and it is probable that the income will be received.

Grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2025

Gifts and donations are included in the Statement of Financial Activities upon receipt.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified.

Donated goods for resale in charity shops are included in the period the goods are sold. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Investment income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Costs of raising funds
- Expenditure on charitable activities
- Other expenditure

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

Costs of raising funds include the salaries of staff who promote fundraising and overhead costs of charity shops.

Charitable activities comprise those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of its assets and are associated with constitutional, statutory and strategic requirements.

Creditors payable within one year

Creditors and provisions payable within one year are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2025

statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

2 Grants

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
CFNI		82,000	82,000	29,535
National Lottery		87,170	87,170	
Henry Smith		79,700	79,700	
RTE Impact Grant		15,000	15,000	
LFT Charitable Trust		10,000	10,000	
Department of Justice		14,000	14,000	
American Fund for Ireland		21,086	21,086	
Dormant Accounts Fund		24,989	24,989	24,989
DCSDC		1,999	1,999	2,000
Children In Need				34,823
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation				33,274
WHSST				6,891
Awards For All				9,997
Cash For Kids				7,100
FSD				7,000
Small Restricted Grants				1,431
		335,944	335,944	157,040

3 Gifts and donations

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Cash Donations	15,276		15,276	11,027
Others	57,626		57,626	126,645
	72,902		72,902	137,672

4 Charitable shop income

	2025 £	2024 £
Income from shops	511,733	661,498
	511,733	661,498

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2025

5 Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Fundraisers salary	-	55,000	55,000	55,000
Shops	474,106	-	474,106	468,019
	474,106	55,000	529,106	287,117

6 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Salaries		180,245	180,245	179,859
Program Costs	10,856	149,998	160,854	283,735
	10,856	330,243	341,099	523,019

7 Other

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Bank Fees and Audit Fee	1,591	4,800	6,391	7,623
	1,591	4,800	6,391	7,623

8 Staff costs and emoluments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	370,869	408,812
Social security costs	15,990	18,709
Pension costs	9,397	6,712
	396,256	434,233

Average number of employees during the year on basis of FTE **16** **18**

Number of employees receiving total employee benefits between £70,000 and £80,000 in year **0** **0**

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2025

9 Trustees' emoluments

One trustee received a total of £580 towards the cost of travel expenses incurred whilst volunteering in the charity during the year (2023 - £NIL).

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Totals
	£
Cost	
At 31 March 2024 and 31 March 2025	0
Accumulated Depreciation	
At 31 March 2024 and 31 March 2025	0
Net book value	
At 31 March 2025	0

11 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Prepayments	0	0
Total	0	0

12 Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2025	2024
	£	£
Danske Bank	606,068	627,669
	608,068	627,669

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals	4,800	4,800
Pension Fund	532	1,786
	5,332	6,586

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2025

14 Unrestricted Funds

This fund is available at the trustees' discretion for any purpose in accordance with the charity's aims and objectives.

15 Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds have been provided to the charity for particular purposes, and it is the policy of the trustees to carefully monitor the application of these funds in accordance with the restrictions placed on them

16 Movements in Funds

	Balance At 31 March 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	Balance At 31 March 2025 £
Restricted	155,789	621,365	(355,776)	150,000	571,378
Unrestricted	465,294	301,617	(587,553)	(150,000)	29,358
Total Funds	621,083	922,982	(943,329)	0	600,736

£150,000 of shop income from previous years had been designated as unrestricted income. It should have been designated as restricted funds. The trustees have determined that £150,00 should be transferred from unrestricted to restricted to reflect this.

17 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions or balances during either year or at either year end.

18 Other Work Undertaken By Our auditors

In common with many other charities of our size and nature we use our auditors to prepare and submit returns to the tax authorities and assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101036

Accounts

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
(A company limited by guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland No. NIC101036
Company No. NI602969

**Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
Legal and Administrative Information

Reference details

Charity Name:	Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
Charity Registration Number:	NIC01036
Company Registration Number:	NI602969

Registered Office and

Operational Address: 67 Carlisle Road, L'Derry BT48 6JL

Directors as at 31 March 2024

Brenda Stevenson
Paul McMinn
Margaret Ogilvie
Tina Gardiner
Alice Diver
Dolores Farren
Jeanette Irvine
Denise McDonald
Charmaine Allen

Company Secretary

Jacqueline Williamson, MBE

Auditors

L Duffy & Co., 12 Queen Street, L'Derry, BT48 7EG

Solicitors

Georgina McKinney, Babington and Croasdale Solicitors, 9 Limavady Road, L'Derry, BT47 6JU
Mark McFeely, Brendan Kearney & Company, 4 Clarendon Street, L'Derry, BT48 7EX

Bankers

Danske Bank Ltd, 6 Shipquay Place, L'Derry, BT48 6DF

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Directors who are also Trustees under provisions of the Companies Act 2006 present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

Governing Document

Kinship Care Northern Ireland (known as 'Kinship Care NI') is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on the 27th April 2010 and accepted as a charity by the Inland Revenue. The company was registered with the new Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (Regulator of Charities in Northern Ireland) on the 4th December 2014.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. The number of members at the 31st March 2024 was 9.

The charitable objects of the charity are, i) the advancement of support to kinship carers and their children; ii) the prevention and relief of poverty; iii) the advancement of education amongst children and young people in kinship care; iv) the advancement of citizenship and community development, and; v) the relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability and financial hardship.

Principal Activities

Kinship Care NI's mission is to help and support children who cannot be cared for by their own parents to live safely and securely within their own families and communities. Kinship Care NI plays a key role in the development and delivery of services for kinship families and is the only organisation in Northern Ireland which focuses exclusively on helping and supporting kinship carers and the children they care for.

Objectives and Activities

Kinship Care NI believe kinship carers, both formal and informal should have access to the help and support they need to assist them in the care and upbringing of their family and friends children. Kinship Care NI responds to the needs of kinship carers and the children in their care through the provision of advice and information and a range of support services. These services are aimed at reducing the stigma and isolation many kinship carers experience in their day to day lives and building the confidence, self esteem and resilience of children in kinship care. It is our commitment that children in kinship care receive the very best start in life, and children who have experienced the loss or removal of their parents achieve personal happiness and well being, and fulfil their potential.

Our long-term commitment is that every kinship carer, irrespective of where they live, or the legal status of the arrangement will have access to a range of support services to help and support them in their kinship role. We will continue to evaluate our services alongside our stakeholders, funders, volunteers, kinship carers and their children and continue to offer kinship carers and their children a voice and choice as to how services can meet their needs.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

Services Delivered

- 2,424 people came through our 5 Kinship Care Centres.
- Handled 656 calls via our tCaring for Kin telephone helpline.
- Provided emergency food packages and essentials via our KIND and Good Help Projects to 158 carers/individuals and 179 children and young people..
- Secured £74,124 in social security benefit/other financial support for kinship carers, lifting them and the children they care for out of situations of severe poverty.
- Provided advice to 105 kinship carers on their legal and financial entitlements.
- Engaged 9777 children in group activities.
- Engaged 59 young people in structured activities via our THRIVE Project.
- Delivered 52 Summer Activities to 404 carers and 647 children and young people.
- Provided advice, information and support to 77 children via our Advocacy Service.
- 428 kinship carers and 542 children engaged in services via our 'Kinnections' Project.
- Distributed 418 Helping Hand Grants in respect of 846 children and young people.
- Engaged 78 children in one to one support.
- Engaged 80 children in play based activities via our Children's Support Service
- Engaged 15 sibling carers and 31 children in our Together Forever Project for older brothers and sisters caring for their younger siblings and a further 79 children in sibling time activities.
- Provided toys and gifts to 901 children in kinship care and 152 children in the community at Christmas and distributed £4,425 in vouchers to 52 families in respect of 87 children.
- Set up Helping Hand Project and provided immediate and practical support to 278 carers/households and 401 children.
- Opened new Kinship Care Centre in Belfast (Unit, 1B 471-473 Antrim Road).
- Continued our School of Confidence Futures Project and engaged 341 young people in CPD accredited training, workshops and work taster sessions.
- Engaged 63 children and young people from different backgrounds and communities in a Kinship Care Good Relations Project.
- Engaged 38 children in weekly Grandparent and Toddler sessions and delivered 12 Confidence Building Programmes to 91 young people ('Youth Champions', Kreative Kins and . Mini Kins')
- Engaged 161 kinship carers in 'Kin Together' support group meetings and activities.
- Delivered training, workshops and information sessions to 127 kinship carers.
- Delivered befriending and emotional support to 129 kinship carers/children in their own homes.
- Supported 103 carers via our Caring for Carers Project for carers in Strabane and L'Derry. engaging 85 carers in Kin Together Support Group sessions, training and family recreation.
- Engaged and delivered structured interventions to 77 children and young people via the MACE Project (Dungannon, Strabane and L'Derry).
- Recruited and trained and supported 41 volunteers and 7 sessional workers.
- Provided 284 individuals and families with free items via our Kindness of Strangers shop.
- Set up new Kindness of Strangers shops in Claudy and Belfast.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

- Held Information Days, Coffee Mornings and fundraising events to raise awareness of kinship care and attended numerous Cost of Living events.
- Commissioned Dr. Katrina Collins (Collins Consultancy) to carry out a 3 year evaluation of our Children's Support Service and Kinnections Project.
- Commissioned Consult NB to carry out an external evaluation of our Community School of Futures Project, funded by the UK Community Renewal Fund.
- Shared our learning of kinship care through various workshops and groups, including Family Support Hub Meetings, Helplines Network NI Awareness Day, Good Help Workshops and articles in the Belfast Telegraph, Mid Ulster Mail, Derry Journal, Your Magazine and Families First Magazine.
- Worked alongside Global Film Makers to capture the voices, views and experiences of young people engaged in our Community School of Futures Project.
- Celebrated International Women's Day, Social Value Week, Volunteer Week, Small Charity Week, Entrepreneurship Week and #socialaturday.
- Increased our social media presence on Facebook and Twitter.

Our services work in partnership with local organisations, including social service departments. For example, in L'Derry our Children's Support Service and Kinship Care Support Service work closely with the Gateway Team, Family Intervention Service, Family and Kinship Fostering Team to support kinship carers and children and young people who are struggling to come to terms with the loss or removal of their parents. In Magherafelt our 'Caring for Kin' Project works with solicitors, the Social Security Agency, Health Visitors and schools and receives referrals from a range of community sector organisations. Our 'Kinnections' Project receives referrals from social work professionals across Northern Ireland and social sector organisations working with disadvantaged children and families in the community.

Achievements and Performance

Throughout the year Kinship Care NI continued to provide advice, information, support and family recreation to kinship carers and their children across Northern Ireland. Our helpline and 'Kin Together' Support Groups have been instrumental in engaging kinship carers, particularly grandparents and older kinship carers who feel isolated and overwhelmed with everything that is going on in their lives including dealing with the long-term impact of COVID-19.

Evide Impact Tracker (Case Management Tool) and New Philanthropy Capital's Well Being Measures are used across all our projects and services to measure and evaluate our impact on the outcomes of children, young people and their carers. Surveys, comment

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

cards, focus groups, video diaries and testimonials are also used to measure the impact of interventions on the overall wellbeing of kinship carers and the children they care for. 'Quizzdom' is also used to gather feedback from children and young people engaged in services.

Helpline

Over the course of the year 636 calls were handled by our helpline. Following one call made to helpline based on completed helpline surveys (n = 152):-

- 86% of kinship carers said they felt more confident.
- 94% of kinship carers understood their situation better.
- 95% of kinship carers reported feeling less isolated.
- 84% of kinship carers felt that their problem was sorted out.
- 16% of kinship carers still felt unsure.

Based on questions asked at the end of calls to the helpline (n = 152):-

- 88% rated the Helpline as "Excellent".
- 90% said the information they received was useful and of good quality.
- 88% said staff members understood their needs.

Evaluations

Throughout the year we evaluated our impact on the financial, social and emotional of carers and their children. Carers were asked to complete a short questionnaire and wellbeing to outline how we responded to their needs and the quality of support they received.

Based on questions asked at the end of support sessions/home visits and one to one support via Zoom or telephone (n = 152) 82% of carers said they had experienced an improvement in their overall wellbeing and 226 out of 226 carers who received support via our KIND and Helping Hand Projects said their financial well-being had improved.

Other (Surveys, Focus Groups, Comment Cards, Testimonials)

- 84% of kinship carers attending Kin Together Support Groups said they felt less isolated and 80% of kinship carers reported an improvement in their emotional/social wellbeing (n = 106).
- 85% of kinship carers said the training they received was of good quality and 88% said they would recommend our training to other kinship carers (n = 125).
- 100% of kinship carers who received a grant reported an improvement in family life (n = 226).
- 86% of children reported an improvement in their confidence and 88% reported an improvement in their emotional well-being (n=162).
- 85% of children said they had had a say in decisions affecting their lives (n=117).

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

During the course of the year, 59 volunteers made a huge impact on the lives of children and young people – 8,495 hours of their time (worth £95,670 to the organisation).

Volunteering at Kinship Care NI produces a tangible return for society, not only in terms of keeping children within their own families, but also helping children in kinship care fulfil their potential. We are enormously dependent on the contribution of volunteers and extremely grateful for their dedication. We are also grateful to the many trusts, foundations, businesses and individuals who have been so generous in their support of Kinship Care NI. We thank you for the many ways you have shown your commitment to us, for your encouragement and shared understanding of the importance of our work. Each gift, no matter how big or small, whether time or money makes a difference to our work with kinship carers and the children they care for.

During the year we focused specifically on supporting carers and children who were significantly impacted by COVID-19, including helping children catch up with their schooling and engaging carers who were isolated or living in more remote locations in Northern Ireland. Allen and Overy Solicitors provided us with £3,333 to engage young people in opportunities for education and the UK Community Renewal Fund provided us with a grant for our Community School of Futures Project. We also received several grants from Cash for Kids to purchase items for children to help with their schooling and enable children achieve their potential. Support was also provided by the American Ireland Fund and the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland (Older People's Fund and ARN Foundation) to allow us support carers and individuals in the community hit hardest by rising food and energy costs.

During the year income from charitable trusts and foundations helped support a variety of programmes and services for children, young people and their carers. We would like to thank the media and members of the public for highlighting and responding to individual appeals, including appeals for food, clothes, toys and household items for children who came to live with members of their extended family in very difficult and traumatic circumstances. Our funders and everyone who gives us gifts in kind and donations for children and young people have helped get us to where we are today. We are extremely grateful for your generosity and support.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

Sharing Our Learning

Throughout the year we collaborated with 86 organisations and shared our learning of the needs and experiences of kinship carers and the children they care for. We are members of the All Party Group for Children and Young People, the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Young Carers Sub-Group, the Adoption and Children's Bill Stakeholder Group and CO3's Health and Social Care Special Interest Group. Over the course of the year we further developed our relationship with the Department of Health and 5 Health and Social Care Trusts to raise the profile of kinship care and ensure the needs of children and their carers are not overlooked in forthcoming policy developments.

Kinship Care NI sit on 5 Family Support Hubs in the Western Trust, 5 in the Northern Trust, 3 in the Belfast Trust, 1 in the South Eastern Trust and 1 in the Southern Trust. These Hubs comprise a multi-agency network of organisations working with disadvantaged families. Through our involvement with these networks we share our knowledge and expertise of kinship care and improve awareness of the support needs of kinship families living in the community. Over the course of the year we met with politicians, policy makers and social service professionals and engaged them in discussion about the many challenges experienced by kinship carers and how their needs could be best met moving forward.

Across all our projects and services we use several outcome frameworks to measure, monitor and evaluate our impact in supporting kinship carers and their children. Kinship care can be complex and the support needs of carers and the children they care for are very different to other families. Evidencing our work has raised awareness of the services we offer and provided a better understanding of the importance of kinship care as an early intervention for children and their families.

We seized every opportunity to inform others of our work and the many achievements of children and young people in kinship care. 5,690 copies of our bi-monthly newsletter 'Kinship News' were distributed to individuals and organisations. 8,950 emails/letters went out informing of our services, events, achievements and successes.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

Plans for Future Periods

In 2024/25 we will continue to develop and deliver high quality, responsive and inclusive services to kinship carers and children and young people in kinship care and work with kinship carers to identify the types of support they need and want in a way which promotes the best interests of the children and young people they care for. We will listen to and act on the voices of children and young people and ensure their voices are heard, valued, respected and listened to, and seize every opportunity to celebrate the achievements and successes of children, young people and their carers.

We will further develop our support services and develop a range of awareness raising literature to ensure kinship carers have information on their rights and entitlements when raising a family or friends child. We will continue to consult with children and young people in kinship care to ensure all projects and services are in keeping with their needs and aspirations, ensuring the voices of children, young people are heard. We will ensure risk is well understood and managed and that the charity is operating legally, that we are maximising our income and operating in full compliance with our charitable objectives, ethos and values.

Recruitment and Appointment of Directors

The Directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. The traditional business skills, along with service users, community and voluntary groups are well represented on the Board of Directors and the Directors are requested to provide an updated list of skills they are able to bring to the company each year and in the event of particular skills being lost due to retirements, individuals are approached to offer themselves for election to the Board of Directors.
Directors.

Trustees Induction and Training

New trustees are invited to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. Briefing sessions jointly led by the Chairperson and the Chief Executive cover:

- The obligations of trustees.
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity, including the memorandum and articles.
- Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts.
- Future plans and objectives as set out in the charity's Strategic Plan 2021-24.

All Trustees receive an Enhanced Access NI check and training on Child Protection, Vulnerable Adults, Lone Working, Health and Safety, Complaints and Equal Opportunities. Training on Good Governance, Managing Performance, Risk Management, Strategic Planning and GDPR is also provided to Trustees.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

Risk Management

The Board of Trustees conduct on a regular basis a review of major risks to which the charity is exposed. This review is updated annually. Where appropriate, systems and procedures are established or updated to mitigate the risks the charity faces. Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a new Fundraising Strategy and the establishment of three social enterprises to allow for alternative funding methods for the charity's activities. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of comprehensive procedures for the authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety rules for staff, volunteers and visitors. All policies and procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure they meet with the needs of the charity and changes to the law.

Organisational Structure

The Board of Directors meets 6 times a year and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. The trustees have ultimate legal and financial responsibility for the affairs of Kinship Care NI, although the management of the organisation has generally been delegated to the staff, through the Chief Executive (Jacqueline Williamson).

Formal Objectives and Activities

The company's objects and principal activities are to:

- Work for the assistance of persons involved in a kinship care arrangement.
- Promote any charitable purpose directed to alleviating problems associated with kinship care arrangements.
- Advance public education in factors associated with kinship care.
- Provide individual and group support to kinship carers and their children.
- Raise awareness amongst the general public of factors associated with kinship care.
- Provide a support service to those who are currently involved with a person undertaking or involved in kinship care.
- Provide and equip premises and centres required for the purposes of the company to organise, sponsor and conduct educational and training courses and meetings, conferences and exhibitions.
- Publish and distribute materials relating to the work of the company.
- Collect, coordinate and make available (by publication or any form of communication) information relative to the activities of the company.
- Receive and administer and allocate grants and gifts available to the company under the terms and conditions attached to such grants and gifts.
- Act as trustees and to undertake or accept any such tasks or responsibilities which will advance the objects of the company

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

Winding Up

Upon the winding up or dissolution of the company, any surplus shall be given to some other body, institution or institutions charitable in law and having objects similar to the objects of Kinship Care NI, which also prohibit the distribution of income or property to its members. No sum whatsoever shall be distributed to members of the company.

Financial Review

Results

The company had a surplus on unrestricted funds for the year ended 31st March 2024 of £465,295 (surplus of £145,714 for year ended 31st March 2023). During the year to the 31st March 2024 the company was in receipt of grants from BBC Children in Need, and the Trusthouse Foundation in respect of specified services to be provided to kinship carers and their children in areas across Northern Ireland.

Fundraising

Most funding to date has come from charitable trusts and foundations via applications made by the Chief Executive with input from Trustees and staff. The Board of Trustees have delegated responsibility for fundraising, including areas of revenue fundraising to the Chief Executive who reports regularly to Trustees on the financial and fundraising performance of the organisation.

BBC Children in Need, the Trusthouse Foundation, Department of Justice, John Moores Foundation, Julia and Hans Rausing Trust, American Ireland Fund, UK Community Renewal Fund, Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, RTE Toy Show Appeal Enakalon Foundation, Thomas Wall Trust and Cordis Charitable Trust made a substantial contribution to the work of by funding a School of Confidence Futures Programme for young people, our Caring for Carer's Project', KIND Project, Helping Hand Project and a Good Help Project.

Five key strategies have been identified as priority focuses for the forthcoming year:-

1. Diversification – diversify the fundraising base of Kinship Care NI to reduce dependency on key grants.
2. New Activity – plan, deliver and learn from a new fundraising activity through a Crowd Funding event.
3. Expansion – consider, plan, deliver and develop a strategy for locating in Belfast and the Republic of Ireland.
4. Corporate Donators – grow the understanding of Kinship Care NI's work and identify new corporate donors outside of Derry/Londonderry.
5. Volunteer Support – grow the understanding of volunteers in Kinship Care NI's work and its impact.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

Investment Policy

Any surplus funds and grants received in advance are placed on deposit until such time as they are required for day to day expenditure.

Reserves Policy

Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be 3 months of total cost. Each year the Trustees review the policy for maintaining free reserves taking into account the major risks faced by the charity. The likely impact on income and planned expenditure includes a review of the planned expenditure and expected incomes and an assessment of the ways to mitigate such risks.

At 31st March 2024 the company had reserves of £465,295

Risk Review

Internal controls are in place to monitor all forms of income, assets, commitment and expenditure. Performance is monitored and appropriate information is prepared and regularly reviewed by the Chief Executive and Board of Trustees. The charity currently produces an annual budget and reports six weekly against that budget. Updated financial forecasting is undertaken during the year to reflect new service developments and their impact on income and expenditure. The principal risk facing the charity is the uncertain external economic environment and the need to sustain services once funding from the Big Lottery Fund comes to an end. The Trustees confirm that they have identified and fully understand the risks to which the charity is subject and that systems are in place to manage these risks.

Employment of Disabled Persons

The company is committed to a policy of recruitment and promotion on the basis of aptitude and ability without negative discrimination of any kind. Kinship Care NI actively pursues both the employment of disabled persons whenever a suitable vacancy arises and the continued employment and retraining of employees who become disabled whilst employed by the charity. Where a current employee or volunteer becomes disabled due to illness or injury the charity, wherever possible and reasonable, will provide assistance with rehabilitation, adaptation to premises, modification of equipment, provision of special aids, job structuring, retraining and/or redeployment

Employees

Kinship Care NI is lucky to have an exceptional team of 9 dedicated staff, whose support has been invaluable in developing and delivering services to children and young people, their carers and families. Over the year, Kinship Care NI made great efforts to ensure employees were kept informed about and involved in the direction of the charity.

Plans for Future Periods

The charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the Directors of Kinship Care NI to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources, including income and expenditure for the financial year.

In preparing those accounts, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that Kinship Care NI will continue on that basis.

The Directors are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the relevant Companies legislation. The Directors are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities

Members of the Board of Directors

Members of the Board of Directors who are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law, and who were directors at 31 March 2024 are set out on page 3.

Auditors

L Duffy & Co. have expressed their willingness to continue as auditors.

Approved by the Directors on the 11th November 2024 and signed on their behalf by:-


Brenda Stevenson (Chair)


Paul McMinn (Treasurer)

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2024

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report (Report of The Directors), other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2024
...continued

statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or

we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 66 of that Act.

We have undertaken the audit in accordance with the requirements of FRC Ethical Standards including FRC Ethical Standard – Provisions Available for Audits of Small Entities, in the circumstances set out in note 18 to the financial statements.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2024
...continued**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We considered the risk of fraud through management override, and in response we incorporated testing of their use of accounting estimates, and remained sceptical throughout the audit.
- We tested controls over expenditure and income and verified the physical existence of fixed assets.
- We also tested the work done on new build against projected costs to ensure work was done within budget

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2024

...continued

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Mr Laurie Duffy
(Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of
L Duffy & Co
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor



11 November 2024

L Duffy & Co are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the companies Act 2006

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

**Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies					
- Grants	2		157,040	157,040	417,924
- Gifts and donations	3	137,672		137,672	264,024
Other Trading Activities					
-Charitable shop income	4	661,498		661,498	295,255
Investment Income		2,108	0	2,108	525
Total Incoming resources		801,278	157,040	958,318	977,728
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	468,019	55,000	523,019	287,117
Charitable activities	6	10,856	330,243	341,099	463,594
Other	7	2,823	4,800	7,623	5,649
Total Resources Expended		481,698	390,043	871,741	756,360
Net Incoming Resources/(Deficit)	6	319,580	(233,003)	86,577	221,368
Transfer between funds					
Net movement in funds		319,580	(233,003)	86,577	221,368
Opening Reserves		145,714	388,792	534,506	313,138
Total Funds Carried Forward	17	465,294	155,789	621,083	534,506

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Notes	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	10		0		0
Current Assets					
Debtors	11		0		0
Cash at Bank and in Hand	12		<u>627,669</u>		<u>539,481</u>
			627,669		539,481
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13		<u>6,586</u>		<u>4,975</u>
Net Current Assets			<u>621,083</u>		<u>534,506</u>
Net Assets	14		<u>621,083</u>		<u>534,506</u>
Funds of the Charity					
Unrestricted Funds	15		465,294		145,714
Restricted Funds	16		<u>155,789</u>		<u>388,792</u>
Total Funds	17		<u>621,083</u>		<u>534,506</u>

Approved by the Directors on the November 2024 and signed on their behalf by


Brenda Stevenson
Chairperson


Paul McMinn
Treasurer

The notes on pages 21 to 26 form part of these financial statements

Company Registration Number: NI602969

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Statement of cash flows for year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flow from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		86,080	220,686
Cash flow from investing activities			
Interest received		<u>2,108</u>	<u>525</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in year		88,188	221,211
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		<u>539,481</u>	<u>318,270</u>
		<u>627,669</u>	<u>539,481</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities			
Net income/(expenditure)		86,577	221,368
Interest received		(2,108)	(525)
Movement in creditors		<u>1,611</u>	<u>(157)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>86,080</u>	<u>220,686</u>

1. Accounting policies

General information and basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

Fixed assets

The charity only capitalises tangible fixed assets if costing more than £5,000. Otherwise, they are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The charity has acquired no fixed assets at the Balance Sheet Date.

Debtors

Debtors are stated after all known bad debts have been written off and specific provision has been made against all debtors considered doubtful of collection.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy and it is probable that the income will be received.

Grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Gifts and donations are included in the Statement of Financial Activities upon receipt.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified.

Donated goods for resale in charity shops are included in the period the goods are sold. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Investment income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Costs of raising funds
- Expenditure on charitable activities
- Other expenditure

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

Costs of raising funds include the salaries of staff who promote fundraising and overhead costs of charity shops.

Charitable activities comprise those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of its assets and are associated with constitutional, statutory and strategic requirements.

Creditors payable within one year

Creditors and provisions payable within one year are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2024

statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

2 Grants

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
CFNI		29,535	29,535	73,121
WHSST		6,891	6,891	
Awards For All		9,997	9,997	
Cash For Kids		7,100	7,100	9,374
Children In Need		34,823	34,823	
DCSDC		2,000	2,000	16,189
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation		33,274	33,274	33,275
Dormant Accounts Fund		24,989	24,989	
FSD		7,000	7,000	
National Lottery				50,000
Henry Smith				39,100
Julia and Hans Rausing				30,000
UK Community Renewal				130,344
Uniting Opportunities				16,441
American Fund for Ireland				8,690
Small Restricted Grants		1,431	1,431	11,390
		157,040	157,040	417,924

3 Gifts and donations

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Cash Donations	11,027		11,027	89,884
Others	126,645		126,645	174,140
	137,672		137,672	264,024

4 Charitable shop income

	2024 £	2023 £
Income from shops	661,498	295,255
	661,498	295,255

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2024

5 Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Fundraisers salary	-	55,000	55,000	55,000
Shops	468,019	-	468,019	232,117
	468,019	55,000	523,019	287,117

6 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Salaries		180,245	180,245	179,859
Program Costs	10,856	149,998	160,854	283,735
	10,856	330,243	341,099	463,594

7 Other

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank Fees and Audit Fee	2,823	4,800	7,623	5,649
	2,823	4,800	7,623	5,649

8 Staff costs and emoluments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	408,812	300,096
Social security costs	18,709	28,814
Pension costs	6,712	1,157
	434,233	330,067

Average number of employees during the year on basis of FTE **18** **13**

Number of employees receiving total employee benefits between £70,000 and £80,000 in year **1** **1**

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2024

9 Trustees' emoluments

The trustees received no emoluments or reimbursement of expenses during the year (2023 - £NIL).

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Totals
	£
Cost	
At 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024	0
Accumulated Depreciation	
At 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024	0
Net book value	
At 31 March 2024	0

11 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments	0	0
Total	0	0

12 Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2024	2023
	£	£
Danske Bank	627,669	539,481
	627,669	539,481

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals	4,800	4,800
Pension Fund	1,786	175
	6,586	4,975

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2024

14 Unrestricted Funds

This fund is available at the trustees' discretion for any purpose in accordance with the charity's aims and objectives.

15 Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds have been provided to the charity for particular purposes, and it is the policy of the trustees to carefully monitor the application of these funds in accordance with the restrictions placed on them

16 Movements in Funds

	Balance At 31 March 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	Balance At 31 March 2024 £
Restricted	388,792	157,040	390,043		155,789
Unrestricted	145,714	801,278	481,698		465,294
Total Funds	534,506	958,318	871,741	0	621,083

17 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions or balances during either year or at either year end.

18 Other Work Undertaken By Our auditors

In common with many other charities of our size and nature we use our auditors to prepare and submit returns to the tax authorities and assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101036

Annual report

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Directors who are also Trustees under provisions of the Companies Act 2006 present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

Governing Document

Kinship Care Northern Ireland (known as 'Kinship Care NI') is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on the 27th April 2010 and accepted as a charity by the Inland Revenue. The company was registered with the new Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (Regulator of Charities in Northern Ireland) on the 4th December 2014.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. The number of members at the 31st March 2024 was 9.

The charitable objects of the charity are, i) the advancement of support to kinship carers and their children; ii) the prevention and relief of poverty; iii) the advancement of education amongst children and young people in kinship care; iv) the advancement of citizenship and community development, and; v) the relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability and financial hardship.

Principal Activities

Kinship Care NI's mission is to help and support children who cannot be cared for by their own parents to live safely and securely within their own families and communities. Kinship Care NI plays a key role in the development and delivery of services for kinship families and is the only organisation in Northern Ireland which focuses exclusively on helping and supporting kinship carers and the children they care for.

Objectives and Activities

Kinship Care NI believe kinship carers, both formal and informal should have access to the help and support they need to assist them in the care and upbringing of their family and friends children. Kinship Care NI responds to the needs of kinship carers and the children in their care through the provision of advice and information and a range of support services. These services are aimed at reducing the stigma and isolation many kinship carers experience in their day to day lives and building the confidence, self esteem and resilience of children in kinship care. It is our commitment that children in kinship care receive the very best start in life, and children who have experienced the loss or removal of their parents achieve personal happiness and well being, and fulfil their potential.

Our long-term commitment is that every kinship carer, irrespective of where they live, or the legal status of the arrangement will have access to a range of support services to help and support them in their kinship role. We will continue to evaluate our services alongside our stakeholders, funders, volunteers, kinship carers and their children and continue to offer kinship carers and their children a voice and choice as to how services can meet their needs.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

Services Delivered

- 2,424 people came through our 5 Kinship Care Centres.
- Handled 656 calls via our tCaring for Kin telephone helpline.
- Provided emergency food packages and essentials via our KIND and Good Help Projects to 158 carers/individuals and 179 children and young people..
- Secured £74,124 in social security benefit/other financial support for kinship carers, lifting them and the children they care for out of situations of severe poverty.
- Provided advice to 105 kinship carers on their legal and financial entitlements.
- Engaged 9777 children in group activities.
- Engaged 59 young people in structured activities via our THRIVE Project.
- Delivered 52 Summer Activities to 404 carers and 647 children and young people.
- Provided advice, information and support to 77 children via our Advocacy Service.
- 428 kinship carers and 542 children engaged in services via our 'Kinnections' Project.
- Distributed 418 Helping Hand Grants in respect of 846 children and young people.
- Engaged 78 children in one to one support.
- Engaged 80 children in play based activities via our Children's Support Service
- Engaged 15 sibling carers and 31 children in our Together Forever Project for older brothers and sisters caring for their younger siblings and a further 79 children in sibling time activities.
- Provided toys and gifts to 901 children in kinship care and 152 children in the community at Christmas and distributed £4,425 in vouchers to 52 families in respect of 87 children.
- Set up Helping Hand Project and provided immediate and practical support to 278 carers/households and 401 children.
- Opened new Kinship Care Centre in Belfast (Unit, 1B 471-473 Antrim Road).
- Continued our School of Confidence Futures Project and engaged 341 young people in CPD accredited training, workshops and work taster sessions.
- Engaged 63 children and young people from different backgrounds and communities in a Kinship Care Good Relations Project.
- Engaged 38 children in weekly Grandparent and Toddler sessions and delivered 12 Confidence Building Programmes to 91 young people ('Youth Champions', Kreative Kins and . Mini Kins')
- Engaged 161 kinship carers in 'Kin Together' support group meetings and activities.
- Delivered training, workshops and information sessions to 127 kinship carers.
- Delivered befriending and emotional support to 129 kinship carers/children in their own homes.
- Supported 103 carers via our Caring for Carers Project for carers in Strabane and L'Derry. engaging 85 carers in Kin Together Support Group sessions, training and family recreation.
- Engaged and delivered structured interventions to 77 children and young people via the MACE Project (Dungannon, Strabane and L'Derry).
- Recruited and trained and supported 41 volunteers and 7 sessional workers.
- Provided 284 individuals and families with free items via our Kindness of Strangers shop.
- Set up new Kindness of Strangers shops in Claudy and Belfast.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

- Held Information Days, Coffee Mornings and fundraising events to raise awareness of kinship care and attended numerous Cost of Living events.
- Commissioned Dr. Katrina Collins (Collins Consultancy) to carry out a 3 year evaluation of our Children's Support Service and Kinnections Project.
- Commissioned Consult NB to carry out an external evaluation of our Community School of Futures Project, funded by the UK Community Renewal Fund.
- Shared our learning of kinship care through various workshops and groups, including Family Support Hub Meetings, Helplines Network NI Awareness Day, Good Help Workshops and articles in the Belfast Telegraph, Mid Ulster Mail, Derry Journal, Your Magazine and Families First Magazine.
- Worked alongside Global Film Makers to capture the voices, views and experiences of young people engaged in our Community School of Futures Project.
- Celebrated International Women's Day, Social Value Week, Volunteer Week, Small Charity Week, Entrepreneurship Week and #socialaturday.
- Increased our social media presence on Facebook and Twitter.

Our services work in partnership with local organisations, including social service departments. For example, in L'Derry our Children's Support Service and Kinship Care Support Service work closely with the Gateway Team, Family Intervention Service, Family and Kinship Fostering Team to support kinship carers and children and young people who are struggling to come to terms with the loss or removal of their parents. In Magherafelt our 'Caring for Kin' Project works with solicitors, the Social Security Agency, Health Visitors and schools and receives referrals from a range of community sector organisations. Our 'Kinnections' Project receives referrals from social work professionals across Northern Ireland and social sector organisations working with disadvantaged children and families in the community.

Achievements and Performance

Throughout the year Kinship Care NI continued to provide advice, information, support and family recreation to kinship carers and their children across Northern Ireland. Our helpline and 'Kin Together' Support Groups have been instrumental in engaging kinship carers, particularly grandparents and older kinship carers who feel isolated and overwhelmed with everything that is going on in their lives including dealing with the long-term impact of COVID-19.

Evide Impact Tracker (Case Management Tool) and New Philanthropy Capital's Well Being Measures are used across all our projects and services to measure and evaluate our impact on the outcomes of children, young people and their carers. Surveys, comment

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

cards, focus groups, video diaries and testimonials are also used to measure the impact of interventions on the overall wellbeing of kinship carers and the children they care for. 'Quizzdom' is also used to gather feedback from children and young people engaged in services.

Helpline

Over the course of the year 636 calls were handled by our helpline. Following one call made to helpline based on completed helpline surveys (n = 152):-

- 86% of kinship carers said they felt more confident.
- 94% of kinship carers understood their situation better.
- 95% of kinship carers reported feeling less isolated.
- 84% of kinship carers felt that their problem was sorted out.
- 16% of kinship carers still felt unsure.

Based on questions asked at the end of calls to the helpline (n = 152):-

- 88% rated the Helpline as "Excellent".
- 90% said the information they received was useful and of good quality.
- 88% said staff members understood their needs.

Evaluations

Throughout the year we evaluated our impact on the financial, social and emotional of carers and their children. Carers were asked to complete a short questionnaire and wellbeing to outline how we responded to their needs and the quality of support they received.

Based on questions asked at the end of support sessions/home visits and one to one support via Zoom or telephone (n = 152) 82% of carers said they had experienced an improvement in their overall wellbeing and 226 out of 226 carers who received support via our KIND and Helping Hand Projects said their financial well-being had improved.

Other (Surveys, Focus Groups, Comment Cards, Testimonials)

- 84% of kinship carers attending Kin Together Support Groups said they felt less isolated and 80% of kinship carers reported an improvement in their emotional/social wellbeing (n = 106).
- 85% of kinship carers said the training they received was of good quality and 88% said they would recommend our training to other kinship carers (n = 125).
- 100% of kinship carers who received a grant reported an improvement in family life (n = 226).
- 86% of children reported an improvement in their confidence and 88% reported an improvement in their emotional well-being (n=162).
- 85% of children said they had had a say in decisions affecting their lives (n=117).

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

During the course of the year, 59 volunteers made a huge impact on the lives of children and young people – 8,495 hours of their time (worth £95,670 to the organisation).

Volunteering at Kinship Care NI produces a tangible return for society, not only in terms of keeping children within their own families, but also helping children in kinship care fulfil their potential. We are enormously dependent on the contribution of volunteers and extremely grateful for their dedication. We are also grateful to the many trusts, foundations, businesses and individuals who have been so generous in their support of Kinship Care NI. We thank you for the many ways you have shown your commitment to us, for your encouragement and shared understanding of the importance of our work. Each gift, no matter how big or small, whether time or money makes a difference to our work with kinship carers and the children they care for.

During the year we focused specifically on supporting carers and children who were significantly impacted by COVID-19, including helping children catch up with their schooling and engaging carers who were isolated or living in more remote locations in Northern Ireland. Allen and Overy Solicitors provided us with £3,333 to engage young people in opportunities for education and the UK Community Renewal Fund provided us with a grant for our Community School of Futures Project. We also received several grants from Cash for Kids to purchase items for children to help with their schooling and enable children achieve their potential. Support was also provided by the American Ireland Fund and the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland (Older People's Fund and ARN Foundation) to allow us support carers and individuals in the community hit hardest by rising food and energy costs.

During the year income from charitable trusts and foundations helped support a variety of programmes and services for children, young people and their carers. We would like to thank the media and members of the public for highlighting and responding to individual appeals, including appeals for food, clothes, toys and household items for children who came to live with members of their extended family in very difficult and traumatic circumstances. Our funders and everyone who gives us gifts in kind and donations for children and young people have helped get us to where we are today. We are extremely grateful for your generosity and support.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

Sharing Our Learning

Throughout the year we collaborated with 86 organisations and shared our learning of the needs and experiences of kinship carers and the children they care for. We are members of the All Party Group for Children and Young People, the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Young Carers Sub-Group, the Adoption and Children's Bill Stakeholder Group and CO3's Health and Social Care Special Interest Group. Over the course of the year we further developed our relationship with the Department of Health and 5 Health and Social Care Trusts to raise the profile of kinship care and ensure the needs of children and their carers are not overlooked in forthcoming policy developments.

Kinship Care NI sit on 5 Family Support Hubs in the Western Trust, 5 in the Northern Trust, 3 in the Belfast Trust, 1 in the South Eastern Trust and 1 in the Southern Trust. These Hubs comprise a multi-agency network of organisations working with disadvantaged families. Through our involvement with these networks we share our knowledge and expertise of kinship care and improve awareness of the support needs of kinship families living in the community. Over the course of the year we met with politicians, policy makers and social service professionals and engaged them in discussion about the many challenges experienced by kinship carers and how their needs could be best met moving forward.

Across all our projects and services we use several outcome frameworks to measure, monitor and evaluate our impact in supporting kinship carers and their children. Kinship care can be complex and the support needs of carers and the children they care for are very different to other families. Evidencing our work has raised awareness of the services we offer and provided a better understanding of the importance of kinship care as an early intervention for children and their families.

We seized every opportunity to inform others of our work and the many achievements of children and young people in kinship care. 5,690 copies of our bi-monthly newsletter 'Kinship News' were distributed to individuals and organisations. 8,950 emails/letters went out informing of our services, events, achievements and successes.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

Plans for Future Periods

In 2024/25 we will continue to develop and deliver high quality, responsive and inclusive services to kinship carers and children and young people in kinship care and work with kinship carers to identify the types of support they need and want in a way which promotes the best interests of the children and young people they care for. We will listen to and act on the voices of children and young people and ensure their voices are heard, valued, respected and listened to, and seize every opportunity to celebrate the achievements and successes of children, young people and their carers.

We will further develop our support services and develop a range of awareness raising literature to ensure kinship carers have information on their rights and entitlements when raising a family or friends child. We will continue to consult with children and young people in kinship care to ensure all projects and services are in keeping with their needs and aspirations, ensuring the voices of children, young people are heard. We will ensure risk is well understood and managed and that the charity is operating legally, that we are maximising our income and operating in full compliance with our charitable objectives, ethos and values.

Recruitment and Appointment of Directors

The Directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. The traditional business skills, along with service users, community and voluntary groups are well represented on the Board of Directors and the Directors are requested to provide an updated list of skills they are able to bring to the company each year and in the event of particular skills being lost due to retirements, individuals are approached to offer themselves for election to the Board of Directors.

Directors.

Trustees Induction and Training

New trustees are invited to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. Briefing sessions jointly led by the Chairperson and the Chief Executive cover:

- The obligations of trustees.
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity, including the memorandum and articles.
- Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts.
- Future plans and objectives as set out in the charity's Strategic Plan 2021-24.

All Trustees receive an Enhanced Access NI check and training on Child Protection, Vulnerable Adults, Lone Working, Health and Safety, Complaints and Equal Opportunities. Training on Good Governance, Managing Performance, Risk Management, Strategic Planning and GDPR is also provided to Trustees.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

Risk Management

The Board of Trustees conduct on a regular basis a review of major risks to which the charity is exposed. This review is updated annually. Where appropriate, systems and procedures are established or updated to mitigate the risks the charity faces. Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a new Fundraising Strategy and the establishment of three social enterprises to allow for alternative funding methods for the charity's activities. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of comprehensive procedures for the authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety rules for staff, volunteers and visitors. All policies and procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure they meet with the needs of the charity and changes to the law.

Organisational Structure

The Board of Directors meets 6 times a year and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. The trustees have ultimate legal and financial responsibility for the affairs of Kinship Care NI, although the management of the organisation has generally been delegated to the staff, through the Chief Executive (Jacqueline Williamson).

Formal Objectives and Activities

The company's objects and principal activities are to:

- Work for the assistance of persons involved in a kinship care arrangement.
- Promote any charitable purpose directed to alleviating problems associated with kinship care arrangements.
- Advance public education in factors associated with kinship care.
- Provide individual and group support to kinship carers and their children.
- Raise awareness amongst the general public of factors associated with kinship care.
- Provide a support service to those who are currently involved with a person undertaking or involved in kinship care.
- Provide and equip premises and centres required for the purposes of the company to organise, sponsor and conduct educational and training courses and meetings, conferences and exhibitions.
- Publish and distribute materials relating to the work of the company.
- Collect, coordinate and make available (by publication or any form of communication) information relative to the activities of the company.
- Receive and administer and allocate grants and gifts available to the company under the terms and conditions attached to such grants and gifts.
- Act as trustees and to undertake or accept any such tasks or responsibilities which will advance the objects of the company

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

Winding Up

Upon the winding up or dissolution of the company, any surplus shall be given to some other body, institution or institutions charitable in law and having objects similar to the objects of Kinship Care NI, which also prohibit the distribution of income or property to its members. No sum whatsoever shall be distributed to members of the company.

Financial Review

Results

The company had a surplus on unrestricted funds for the year ended 31st March 2024 of £465,295 (surplus of £145,714 for year ended 31st March 2023). During the year to the 31st March 2024 the company was in receipt of grants from BBC Children in Need, and the Trusthouse Foundation in respect of specified services to be provided to kinship carers and their children in areas across Northern Ireland.

Fundraising

Most funding to date has come from charitable trusts and foundations via applications made by the Chief Executive with input from Trustees and staff. The Board of Trustees have delegated responsibility for fundraising, including areas of revenue fundraising to the Chief Executive who reports regularly to Trustees on the financial and fundraising performance of the organisation.

BBC Children in Need, the Trusthouse Foundation, Department of Justice, John Moores Foundation, Julia and Hans Rausing Trust, American Ireland Fund, UK Community Renewal Fund, Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, RTE Toy Show Appeal Enakalon Foundation, Thomas Wall Trust and Cordis Charitable Trust made a substantial contribution to the work of by funding a School of Confidence Futures Programme for young people, our Caring for Carer's Project', KIND Project, Helping Hand Project and a Good Help Project.

Five key strategies have been identified as priority focuses for the forthcoming year:-

1. Diversification – diversify the fundraising base of Kinship Care NI to reduce dependency on key grants.
2. New Activity – plan, deliver and learn from a new fundraising activity through a Crowd Funding event.
3. Expansion – consider, plan, deliver and develop a strategy for locating in Belfast and the Republic of Ireland.
4. Corporate Donators – grow the understanding of Kinship Care NI's work and identify new corporate donors outside of Derry/Londonderry.
5. Volunteer Support – grow the understanding of volunteers in Kinship Care NI's work and its impact.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2024

.....continued

Investment Policy

Any surplus funds and grants received in advance are placed on deposit until such time as they are required for day to day expenditure.

Reserves Policy

Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be 3 months of total cost. Each year the Trustees review the policy for maintaining free reserves taking into account the major risks faced by the charity. The likely impact on income and planned expenditure includes a review of the planned expenditure and expected incomes and an assessment of the ways to mitigate such risks.

At 31st March 2024 the company had reserves of £465,295

Risk Review

Internal controls are in place to monitor all forms of income, assets, commitment and expenditure. Performance is monitored and appropriate information is prepared and regularly reviewed by the Chief Executive and Board of Trustees. The charity currently produces an annual budget and reports six weekly against that budget. Updated financial forecasting is undertaken during the year to reflect new service developments and their impact on income and expenditure. The principal risk facing the charity is the uncertain external economic environment and the need to sustain services once funding from the Big Lottery Fund comes to an end. The Trustees confirm that they have identified and fully understand the risks to which the charity is subject and that systems are in place to manage these risks.

Employment of Disabled Persons

The company is committed to a policy of recruitment and promotion on the basis of aptitude and ability without negative discrimination of any kind. Kinship Care NI actively pursues both the employment of disabled persons whenever a suitable vacancy arises and the continued employment and retraining of employees who become disabled whilst employed by the charity. Where a current employee or volunteer becomes disabled due to illness or injury the charity, wherever possible and reasonable, will provide assistance with rehabilitation, adaptation to premises, modification of equipment, provision of special aids, job structuring, retraining and/or redeployment

Employees

Kinship Care NI is lucky to have an exceptional team of 9 dedicated staff, whose support has been invaluable in developing and delivering services to children and young people, their carers and families. Over the year, Kinship Care NI made great efforts to ensure employees were kept informed about and involved in the direction of the charity.

Plans for Future Periods

The charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the Directors of Kinship Care NI to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources, including income and expenditure for the financial year.

In preparing those accounts, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that Kinship Care NI will continue on that basis.

The Directors are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the relevant Companies legislation. The Directors are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities

Members of the Board of Directors

Members of the Board of Directors who are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law, and who were directors at 31 March 2024 are set out on page 3.

Auditors

L Duffy & Co. have expressed their willingness to continue as auditors.

Approved by the Directors on the 11th November 2024 and signed on their behalf by:-


Brenda Stevenson (Chair)


Paul McMinn (Treasurer)

Kinship Care Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101036

Annual return

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2024

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report (Report of The Directors), other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2024
...continued

statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or

we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 66 of that Act.

We have undertaken the audit in accordance with the requirements of FRC Ethical Standards including FRC Ethical Standard – Provisions Available for Audits of Small Entities, in the circumstances set out in note 18 to the financial statements.

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2024
...continued

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We considered the risk of fraud through management override, and in response we incorporated testing of their use of accounting estimates, and remained sceptical throughout the audit.
- We tested controls over expenditure and income and verified the physical existence of fixed assets.
- We also tested the work done on new build against projected costs to ensure work was done within budget

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2024

...continued

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Mr Laurie Duffy
(Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of
L Duffy & Co
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor



11 November 2024

L Duffy & Co are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the companies Act 2006

Kinship Care Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101036

Accounts

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
(A company limited by guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland No. NIC101036
Company No. NI602969

**Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
Legal and Administrative Information

Reference details

Charity Name:	Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
Charity Registration Number:	NIC01036
Company Registration Number:	NI602969

Registered Office and

Operational Address: 67 Carlisle Road, L'Derry BT48 6JL

Directors as at 31 March 2023

Brenda Stevenson
Paul McMinn
Margaret Ogilvie
Tina Gardiner
Clare McGee
Alice Diver
Dolores Farren
Jeanette Irvine
Denise McDonald
Charmaine Allen

Company Secretary

Jacqueline Williamson, MBE

Auditors

L Duffy & Co., 12 Queen Street, L'Derry, BT48 7EG

Solicitors

Georgina McKinney, Babington and Croasdale Solicitors, 9 Limavady Road, L'Derry, BT47 6JU
Mark McFeely, Brendan Kearney & Company, 4 Clarendon Street, L'Derry, BT48 7EX

Bankers

Danske Bank Ltd, 6 Shipquay Place, L'Derry, BT48 6DF

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Directors who are also Trustees under provisions of the Companies Act 2006 present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

Governing Document

Kinship Care Northern Ireland (known as 'Kinship Care NI') is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on the 27th April 2010 and accepted as a charity by the Inland Revenue. The company was registered with the new Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (Regulator of Charities in Northern Ireland) on the 4th December 2014.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. The number of members at the 31st March 2022 was 10.

The charitable objects of the charity are, i) the advancement of support to kinship carers and their children; ii) the prevention and relief of poverty; iii) the advancement of education amongst children and young people in kinship care; iv) the advancement of citizenship and community development, and; v) the relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability and financial hardship.

Principal Activities

Kinship Care NI's mission is to help and support children who cannot be cared for by their own parents to live safely and securely within their own families and communities. Kinship Care NI plays a key role in the development and delivery of services for kinship families and is the only organisation in Northern Ireland which focuses exclusively on helping and supporting kinship carers and the children they care for.

Objectives and Activities

Kinship Care NI believe kinship carers, both formal and informal should have access to the help and support they need to assist them in the care and upbringing of their family and friends children. Kinship Care NI responds to the needs of kinship carers and the children in their care through the provision of advice and information and a range of support services. These services are aimed at reducing the stigma and isolation many kinship carers experience in their day to day lives and building the confidence, self esteem and resilience of children in kinship care. It is our commitment that children in kinship care receive the very best start in life, and children who have experienced the loss or removal of their parents achieve personal happiness and well being, and fulfil their potential.

Our long-term commitment is that every kinship carer, irrespective of where they live, or the legal status of the arrangement will have access to a range of support services to help and support them in their kinship role. We will continue to evaluate our services alongside our stakeholders, funders, volunteers, kinship carers and their children and continue to offer kinship carers and their children a voice and choice as to how services can meet their needs.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Services Delivered

- 2,639 people came through our 5 Kinship Care Centres.
- Handled 636 calls via our tCaring for Kin telephone helpline.
- Provided emergency food packages and essentials via our KIND and Good Help Projects to 178 carers/individuals and 189 children and young people..
- Secured £61,255 in social security benefit/other financial support for kinship carers, lifting them and the children they care for out of situations of severe poverty.
- Provided advice to 99 kinship carers on their legal and financial entitlements.
- Engaged 1,007 children in group activities.
- Engaged 61 young people in structured activities via our THRIVE Project.
- Delivered 62 Summer Activities to 448 carers and 714 children and young people.
- Provided advice, information and support to 67 children via our Advocacy Service.
- 478 kinship carers and 572 children engaged in services via our 'Kinnections' Project.
- Distributed 408 Helping Hand Grants in respect of 896 children and young people.
- Engaged 88 children in one to one support.
- Engaged 81 children in play based activities via our Children's Support Service
- Engaged 17 sibling carers and 38 children in our Together Forever Project for older brothers and sisters caring for their younger siblings and a further 87 children in sibling time activities.
- Provided toys and gifts to 879 children in kinship care and 162 children in the community at Christmas and distributed £3,455 in vouchers to 53 families in respect of 97 children.
- Set up Helping Hand Project and provided immediate and practical support to 298 carers/households and 411 children.
- Opened new Kinship Care Centre in Belfast (Unit, 1B 471-473 Antrim Road).
- Continued our School of Confidence Futures Project and engaged 321 young people in CPD accredited training, workshops and work taster sessions.
- Engaged 67 children and young people from different backgrounds and communities in a Kinship Care Good Relations Project.
- Engaged 34 children in weekly Grandparent and Toddler sessions and delivered 11 Confidence Building Programmes to 89 young people ('Youth Champions', Kreative Kins and . Mini Kins')
- Engaged 166 kinship carers in 'Kin Together' support group meetings and activities.
- Delivered training, workshops and information sessions to 147 kinship carers.
- Delivered befriending and emotional support to 139 kinship carers/children in their own homes.
- Supported 113 carers via our Caring for Carers Project for carers in Strabane and L'Derry. engaging 97 carers in Kin Together Support Group sessions, training and family recreation.
- Engaged and delivered structured interventions to 67 children and young people via the MACE Project (Dungannon, Strabane and L'Derry).
- Recruited and trained and supported 39 volunteers and 8 sessional workers.
- Provided 267 individuals and families with free items via our Kindness of Strangers shop.
- Set up new Kindness of Strangers shops in Cookstown and Omagh.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

- Held Information Days, Coffee Mornings and fundraising events to raise awareness of kinship care and attended numerous Cost of Living events.
- Commissioned Dr. Katrina Collins (Collins Consultancy) to carry out a 3 year evaluation of our Children's Support Service and Kinnections Project.
- Commissioned Consult NB to carry out an external evaluation of our Community School of Futures Project, funded by the UK Community Renewal Fund.
- Shared our learning of kinship care through various workshops and groups, including Family Support Hub Meetings, Helplines Network NI Awareness Day, Good Help Workshops and articles in the Belfast Telegraph, Mid Ulster Mail, Derry Journal, Your Magazine and Families First Magazine.
- Worked alongside Global Film Makers to capture the voices, views and experiences of young people engaged in our Community School of Futures Project.
- Celebrated International Women's Day, Social Value Week, Volunteer Week, Small Charity Week, Entrepreneurship Week and #socialaturday.
- Increased our social media presence on Facebook and Twitter.

Our services work in partnership with local organisations, including social service departments. For example, in L'Derry our Children's Support Service and Kinship Care Support Service work closely with the Gateway Team, Family Intervention Service, Family and Kinship Fostering Team to support kinship carers and children and young people who are struggling to come to terms with the loss or removal of their parents. In Magherafelt our 'Caring for Kin' Project works with solicitors, the Social Security Agency, Health Visitors and schools and receives referrals from a range of community sector organisations. Our 'Kinnections' Project receives referrals from social work professionals across Northern Ireland and social sector organisations working with disadvantaged children and families in the community.

Achievements and Performance

Throughout the year Kinship Care NI continued to provide advice, information, support and family recreation to kinship carers and their children across Northern Ireland. Our helpline and 'Kin Together' Support Groups have been instrumental in engaging kinship carers, particularly grandparents and older kinship carers who feel isolated and overwhelmed with everything that is going on in their lives including dealing with the long-term impact of COVID-19.

Evide Impact Tracker (Case Management Tool) and New Philanthropy Capital's Well Being Measures are used across all our projects and services to measure and evaluate our impact on the outcomes of children, young people and their carers. Surveys, comment

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

cards, focus groups, video diaries and testimonials are also used to measure the impact of interventions on the overall wellbeing of kinship carers and the children they care for. 'Quizzdom' is also used to gather feedback from children and young people engaged in services.

Helpline

Over the course of the year 636 calls were handled by our helpline. Following one call made to helpline based on completed helpline surveys (n = 141):-

- 86% of kinship carers said they felt more confident.
- 94% of kinship carers understood their situation better.
- 95% of kinship carers reported feeling less isolated.
- 84% of kinship carers felt that their problem was sorted out.
- 16% of kinship carers still felt unsure.

Based on questions asked at the end of calls to the helpline (n = 141):-

- 88% rated the Helpline as "Excellent".
- 90% said the information they received was useful and of good quality.
- 88% said staff members understood their needs.

Evaluations

Throughout the year we evaluated our impact on the financial, social and emotional of carers and their children. Carers were asked to complete a short questionnaire and wellbeing to outline how we responded to their needs and the quality of support they received.

Based on questions asked at the end of support sessions/home visits and one to one support via Zoom or telephone (n = 146) 82% of carers said they had experienced an improvement in their overall wellbeing and 226 out of 226 carers who received support via our KIND and Helping Hand Projects said their financial well-being had improved.

Other (Surveys, Focus Groups, Comment Cards, Testimonials)

- 84% of kinship carers attending Kin Together Support Groups said they felt less isolated and 80% of kinship carers reported an improvement in their emotional/social wellbeing (n = 106).
- 85% of kinship carers said the training they received was of good quality and 88% said they would recommend our training to other kinship carers (n = 125).
- 100% of kinship carers who received a grant reported an improvement in family life (n = 226).
- 86% of children reported an improvement in their confidence and 88% reported an improvement in their emotional well-being (n=162).
- 85% of children said they had had a say in decisions affecting their lives (n=117).

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

During the course of the year, 57 volunteers made a huge impact on the lives of children and young people – 7,895 hours of their time (worth £84,476.50 to the organisation).

Volunteering at Kinship Care NI produces a tangible return for society, not only in terms of keeping children within their own families, but also helping children in kinship care fulfil their potential. We are enormously dependent on the contribution of volunteers and extremely grateful for their dedication. We are also grateful to the many trusts, foundations, businesses and individuals who have been so generous in their support of Kinship Care NI. We thank you for the many ways you have shown your commitment to us, for your encouragement and shared understanding of the importance of our work. Each gift, no matter how big or small, whether time or money makes a difference to our work with kinship carers and the children they care for.

During the year we focused specifically on supporting carers and children who were significantly impacted by COVID-19, including helping children catch up with their schooling and engaging carers who were isolated or living in more remote locations in Northern Ireland. Allen and Overy Solicitors provided us with £3,333 to engage young people in opportunities for education and the UK Community Renewal Fund provided us with a grant for our Community School of Futures Project. We also received several grants from Cash for Kids to purchase items for children to help with their schooling and enable children achieve their potential. Support was also provided by the American Ireland Fund and the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland (Older People's Fund and ARN Foundation) to allow us support carers and individuals in the community hit hardest by rising food and energy costs.

During the year income from charitable trusts and foundations helped support a variety of programmes and services for children, young people and their carers. We would like to thank the media and members of the public for highlighting and responding to individual appeals, including appeals for food, clothes, toys and household items for children who came to live with members of their extended family in very difficult and traumatic circumstances. Our funders and everyone who gives us gifts in kind and donations for children and young people have helped get us to where we are today. We are extremely grateful for your generosity and support.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Sharing Our Learning

Throughout the year we collaborated with 86 organisations and shared our learning of the needs and experiences of kinship carers and the children they care for. We are members of the All Party Group for Children and Young People, the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Young Carers Sub-Group, the Adoption and Children's Bill Stakeholder Group and CO3's Health and Social Care Special Interest Group. Over the course of the year we further developed our relationship with the Department of Health and 5 Health and Social Care Trusts to raise the profile of kinship care and ensure the needs of children and their carers are not overlooked in forthcoming policy developments.

Kinship Care NI sit on 5 Family Support Hubs in the Western Trust, 5 in the Northern Trust, 3 in the Belfast Trust, 1 in the South Eastern Trust and 1 in the Southern Trust. These Hubs comprise a multi-agency network of organisations working with disadvantaged families. Through our involvement with these networks we share our knowledge and expertise of kinship care and improve awareness of the support needs of kinship families living in the community. Over the course of the year we met with politicians, policy makers and social service professionals and engaged them in discussion about the many challenges experienced by kinship carers and how their needs could be best met moving forward.

Across all our projects and services we use several outcome frameworks to measure, monitor and evaluate our impact in supporting kinship carers and their children. Kinship care can be complex and the support needs of carers and the children they care for are very different to other families. Evidencing our work has raised awareness of the services we offer and provided a better understanding of the importance of kinship care as an early intervention for children and their families.

We seized every opportunity to inform others of our work and the many achievements of children and young people in kinship care. 5,890 copies of our bi-monthly newsletter 'Kinship News' were distributed to individuals and organisations. 8,650 emails/letters went out informing of our services, events, achievements and successes.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd
Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Plans for Future Periods

In 2023/24 we will continue to develop and deliver high quality, responsive and inclusive services to kinship carers and children and young people in kinship care and work with kinship carers to identify the types of support they need and want in a way which promotes the best interests of the children and young people they care for. We will listen to and act on the voices of children and young people and ensure their voices are heard, valued, respected and listened to, and seize every opportunity to celebrate the achievements and successes of children, young people and their carers.

We will further develop our support services and develop a range of awareness raising literature to ensure kinship carers have information on their rights and entitlements when raising a family or friends child. We will continue to consult with children and young people in kinship care to ensure all projects and services are in keeping with their needs and aspirations, ensuring the voices of children, young people are heard. We will ensure risk is well understood and managed and that the charity is operating legally, that we are maximising our income and operating in full compliance with our charitable objectives, ethos and values.

Recruitment and Appointment of Directors

The Directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. The traditional business skills, along with service users, community and voluntary groups are well represented on the Board of Directors and the Directors are requested to provide an updated list of skills they are able to bring to the company each year and in the event of particular skills being lost due to retirements, individuals are approached to offer themselves for election to the Board of Directors.
Directors.

Trustees Induction and Training

New trustees are invited to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. Briefing sessions jointly led by the Chairperson and the Chief Executive cover:

- The obligations of trustees.
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity, including the memorandum and articles.
- Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts.
- Future plans and objectives as set out in the charity's Strategic Plan 2021-24.

All Trustees receive an Enhanced Access NI check and training on Child Protection, Vulnerable Adults, Lone Working, Health and Safety, Complaints and Equal Opportunities. Training on Good Governance, Managing Performance, Risk Management, Strategic Planning and GDPR is also provided to Trustees.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Risk Management

The Board of Trustees conduct on a regular basis a review of major risks to which the charity is exposed. This review is updated annually. Where appropriate, systems and procedures are established or updated to mitigate the risks the charity faces. Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a new Fundraising Strategy and the establishment of three social enterprises to allow for alternative funding methods for the charity's activities. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of comprehensive procedures for the authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety rules for staff, volunteers and visitors. All policies and procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure they meet with the needs of the charity and changes to the law.

Organisational Structure

The Board of Directors meets 6 times a year and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. The trustees have ultimate legal and financial responsibility for the affairs of Kinship Care NI, although the management of the organisation has generally been delegated to the staff, through the Chief Executive (Jacqueline Williamson).

Formal Objectives and Activities

The company's objects and principal activities are to:

- Work for the assistance of persons involved in a kinship care arrangement.
- Promote any charitable purpose directed to alleviating problems associated with kinship care arrangements.
- Advance public education in factors associated with kinship care.
- Provide individual and group support to kinship carers and their children.
- Raise awareness amongst the general public of factors associated with kinship care.
- Provide a support service to those who are currently involved with a person undertaking or involved in kinship care.
- Provide and equip premises and centres required for the purposes of the company to organise, sponsor and conduct educational and training courses and meetings, conferences and exhibitions.
- Publish and distribute materials relating to the work of the company.
- Collect, coordinate and make available (by publication or any form of communication) information relative to the activities of the company.
- Receive and administer and allocate grants and gifts available to the company under the terms and conditions attached to such grants and gifts.
- Act as trustees and to undertake or accept any such tasks or responsibilities which will advance the objects of the company

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Winding Up

Upon the winding up or dissolution of the company, any surplus shall be given to some other body, institution or institutions charitable in law and having objects similar to the objects of Kinship Care NI, which also prohibit the distribution of income or property to its members. No sum whatsoever shall be distributed to members of the company.

Financial Review

Results

The company had a surplus on unrestricted funds for the year ended 31st March 2022 of £36,208 (surplus of £21,971 for year ended 31st March 2022). During the year to the 31st March 2023 the company was in receipt of grants from BBC Children in Need, the Trusthouse Foundation and the Henry Smith Charity in respect of specified services to be provided to kinship carers and their children in areas across Northern Ireland.

Fundraising

Most funding to date has come from charitable trusts and foundations via applications made by the Chief Executive with input from Trustees and staff. The Board of Trustees have delegated responsibility for fundraising, including areas of revenue fundraising to the Chief Executive who reports regularly to Trustees on the financial and fundraising performance of the organisation.

BBC Children in Need, the Trusthouse Foundation, Department of Justice, John Moores Foundation, Julia and Hans Rausing Trust, American Ireland Fund, UK Community Renewal Fund, Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, RTE Toy Show Appeal Enakalon Foundation, Thomas Wall Trust and Cordis Charitable Trust made a substantial contribution to the work of by funding a School of Confidence Futures Programme for young people, our Caring for Carer's Project', KIND Project, Helping Hand Project and a Good Help Project.

Five key strategies have been identified as priority focuses for the forthcoming year:-

1. Diversification – diversify the fundraising base of Kinship Care NI to reduce dependency on key grants.
2. New Activity – plan, deliver and learn from a new fundraising activity through a Crowd Funding event.
3. Expansion – consider, plan, deliver and develop a strategy for locating in Belfast and the Republic of Ireland.
4. Corporate Donators – grow the understanding of Kinship Care NI's work and identify new corporate donors outside of Derry/Londonderry.
5. Volunteer Support – grow the understanding of volunteers in Kinship Care NI's work and its impact.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

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Investment Policy

Any surplus funds and grants received in advance are placed on deposit until such time as they are required for day to day expenditure.

Reserves Policy

Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be 3 months of total cost. Each year the Trustees review the policy for maintaining free reserves taking into account the major risks faced by the charity. The likely impact on income and planned expenditure includes a review of the planned expenditure and expected incomes and an assessment of the ways to mitigate such risks.

At 31st March 2023 the company had reserves of £36,208

Risk Review

Internal controls are in place to monitor all forms of income, assets, commitment and expenditure. Performance is monitored and appropriate information is prepared and regularly reviewed by the Chief Executive and Board of Trustees. The charity currently produces an annual budget and reports six weekly against that budget. Updated financial forecasting is undertaken during the year to reflect new service developments and their impact on income and expenditure. The principal risk facing the charity is the uncertain external economic environment and the need to sustain services once funding from the Big Lottery Fund comes to an end. The Trustees confirm that they have identified and fully understand the risks to which the charity is subject and that systems are in place to manage these risks.

Employment of Disabled Persons

The company is committed to a policy of recruitment and promotion on the basis of aptitude and ability without negative discrimination of any kind. Kinship Care NI actively pursues both the employment of disabled persons whenever a suitable vacancy arises and the continued employment and retraining of employees who become disabled whilst employed by the charity. Where a current employee or volunteer becomes disabled due to illness or injury the charity, wherever possible and reasonable, will provide assistance with rehabilitation, adaptation to premises, modification of equipment, provision of special aids, job structuring, retraining and/or redeployment

Employees

Kinship Care NI is lucky to have an exceptional team of 9 dedicated staff, whose support has been invaluable in developing and delivering services to children and young people, their carers and families. Over the year, Kinship Care NI made great efforts to ensure employees were kept informed about and involved in the direction of the charity.

Plans for Future Periods

The charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the Directors of Kinship Care NI to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources, including income and expenditure for the financial year.

In preparing those accounts, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that Kinship Care NI will continue on that basis.

The Directors are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the relevant Companies legislation. The Directors are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities

Members of the Board of Directors

Members of the Board of Directors who are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law, and who were directors at 31 March 2023 are set out on page 3.

Auditors

L Duffy & Co. have expressed their willingness to continue as auditors.

Approved by the Directors on the 28th January 2024 and signed on their behalf by:-



Brenda Stevenson (Chair)



Paul McMinn (Treasurer)

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2023

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report (Report of The Directors), other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2023

...continued

statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or

we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 66 of that Act.

We have undertaken the audit in accordance with the requirements of FRC Ethical Standards including FRC Ethical Standard – Provisions Available for Audits of Small Entities, in the circumstances set out in note 18 to the financial statements.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2023
...continued**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We considered the risk of fraud through management override, and in response we incorporated testing of their use of accounting estimates, and remained sceptical throughout the audit.
- We tested controls over expenditure and income and verified the physical existence of fixed assets.
- We also tested the work done on new build against projected costs to ensure work was done within budget

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2023
...continued**

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Mr Laurie Duffy
(Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of
L Duffy & Co
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor



28 January 2024

L Duffy & Co are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the companies Act 2006

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

**Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
Year Ended 31 March 2023**

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies					
- Grants	2		422,924	422,924	611,720
- Gifts and donations	3	100,861		100,861	58,882
Other Trading Activities					
-Charitable shop income	4	268,700		268,700	125,052
Investment Income		242	0	242	141
Other Income					
- HMRC CJRS				0	1,998
Total Incoming resources		369,803	422,924	792,727	797,793
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	118,925		118,925	235,334
Charitable activities	6	236,641	261,145	497,786	618,582
Other	7		4,800	4,800	4,800
Total Resources Expended		355,566	265,945	621,511	858,716
Net Incoming Resources/(Deficit)	6	14,237	156,979	171,216	(60,923)
Transfer between funds					
Net movement in funds		14,237	156,979	171,216	(60,923)
Opening Reserves		21,971	291,167	313,138	374,061
Total Funds Carried Forward	17	36,208	448,146	484,354	313,138

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Notes	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	10		0		0
Current Assets					
Debtors	11		0		0
Cash at Bank and in Hand	12		491,796		318,270
			<u>491,796</u>		<u>318,270</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13		<u>7,442</u>		<u>5,132</u>
Net Current Assets			<u>484,354</u>		<u>313,138</u>
Net Assets	14		<u>484,354</u>		<u>313,138</u>
Funds of the Charity					
Unrestricted Funds	15		36,208		21,971
Restricted Funds	16		<u>448,146</u>		<u>291,167</u>
Total Funds	17		<u>484,354</u>		<u>313,138</u>

Approved by the Directors on the 28 January 2024 and signed on their behalf by



**Brenda Stevenson
Chairperson**



**Paul McMinn
Treasurer**

The notes on pages 21 to 26 form part of these financial statements

Company Registration Number: NI602969

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Statement of cash flows for year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flow from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		173,284	(59,292)
Cash flow from investing activities			
Interest received		<u>242</u>	<u>141</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in year		173,526	(59,151)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		<u>318,270</u>	<u>377,421</u>
		<u>491,796</u>	<u>318,270</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities			
Net income/(expenditure)		171,216	(60,923)
Interest received		(242)	(141)
Movement in creditors		<u>2,310</u>	<u>1,772</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>173,284</u>	<u>(59,292)</u>

1. Accounting policies

General information and basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

Fixed assets

The charity only capitalises tangible fixed assets if costing more than £5,000. Otherwise, they are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The charity has acquired no fixed assets at the Balance Sheet Date.

Debtors

Debtors are stated after all known bad debts have been written off and specific provision has been made against all debtors considered doubtful of collection.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy and it is probable that the income will be received.

Grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Gifts and donations are included in the Statement of Financial Activities upon receipt.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified.

Donated goods for resale in charity shops are included in the period the goods are sold. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Investment income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Costs of raising funds
- Expenditure on charitable activities
- Other expenditure

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

Costs of raising funds include the salaries of staff who promote fundraising and overhead costs of charity shops.

Charitable activities comprise those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of its assets and are associated with constitutional, statutory and strategic requirements.

Creditors payable within one year

Creditors and provisions payable within one year are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2023

statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

2 Grants

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
DCSDC		19,184	19,184	60,550
Henry Smith Charity		39,100	39,100	57,500
Lottery		50,000	50,000	109,395
BBC Children In Need				69,124
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation				24,303
CFNI		73,121	73,121	69,164
UK Community Renewal Fund		130,344	130,344	130,344
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation		33,274	33,274	33,274
Department of Communities		16,441	16,441	
Julia and Hans Rausing Trust		30,000	30,000	
Small Restricted Grants		31,460	31,460	58,066
		422,924	422,924	611,720

3 Gifts and donations

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Local Giving				12,761
Allstate				7,478
Fintru				
Cash Donations	26,721		26,721	10,328
Others	74,140		74,140	28,315
	100,861		100,861	58,882

4 Charitable shop income

	2023 £	2022 £
Income from shops	268,700	125,052
	268,700	125,052

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2023

5 Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fundraisers salary	54,325	-	54,325	45,734
Shops	64,600	-	64,600	189,600
	118,925	-	118,925	235,334

6 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Salaries	135,518	140,224	275,742	305,808
Program Costs	101,123	120,921	222,044	312,774
	236,641	261,145	497,786	618,582

7 Other

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Audit Fee	-	4,800	4,800	4,800
	-	4,800	4,800	4,800

8 Staff costs and emoluments

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	300,096	324,474
Social security costs	28,814	24,564
Pension costs	1,157	2,504
	330,067	351,542

Average number of employees during the year	11	13
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No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2023

9 Trustees' emoluments

The trustees received no emoluments or reimbursement of expenses during the year (2022 - £NIL).

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Totals
	£
Cost	
At 31 March 2022 and 31 March 2023	0
Accumulated Depreciation	
At 31 March 2022 and 31 March 2023	0
Net book value	
At 31 March 2023	0

11 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Prepayments	0	0
Total	0	0

12 Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2023	2022
	£	£
Danske Bank	493,796	318,270
	493,796	318,270

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals	7,078	4,800
Pension Fund	364	332
	7,442	5,132

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2023

14 Unrestricted Funds

This fund is available at the trustees' discretion for any purpose in accordance with the charity's aims and objectives.

15 Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds have been provided to the charity for particular purposes, and it is the policy of the trustees to carefully monitor the application of these funds in accordance with the restrictions placed on them

16 Movements in Funds

	Balance At 31 March 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	Balance At 31 March 2023 £
Restricted	291,167	422,924	(265,945)		448,146
Unrestricted	21,971	369,803	(355,566)		36,208
Total Funds	313,138	792,727	(621,511)		484,354

17 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions or balances during either year or at either year end.

18 Other Work Undertaken By Our auditors

In common with many other charities of our size and nature we use our auditors to prepare and submit returns to the tax authorities and assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101036

Annual report

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Directors who are also Trustees under provisions of the Companies Act 2006 present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

Governing Document

Kinship Care Northern Ireland (known as 'Kinship Care NI') is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on the 27th April 2010 and accepted as a charity by the Inland Revenue. The company was registered with the new Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (Regulator of Charities in Northern Ireland) on the 4th December 2014.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. The number of members at the 31st March 2022 was 10.

The charitable objects of the charity are, i) the advancement of support to kinship carers and their children; ii) the prevention and relief of poverty; iii) the advancement of education amongst children and young people in kinship care; iv) the advancement of citizenship and community development, and; v) the relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability and financial hardship.

Principal Activities

Kinship Care NI's mission is to help and support children who cannot be cared for by their own parents to live safely and securely within their own families and communities. Kinship Care NI plays a key role in the development and delivery of services for kinship families and is the only organisation in Northern Ireland which focuses exclusively on helping and supporting kinship carers and the children they care for.

Objectives and Activities

Kinship Care NI believe kinship carers, both formal and informal should have access to the help and support they need to assist them in the care and upbringing of their family and friends children. Kinship Care NI responds to the needs of kinship carers and the children in their care through the provision of advice and information and a range of support services. These services are aimed at reducing the stigma and isolation many kinship carers experience in their day to day lives and building the confidence, self esteem and resilience of children in kinship care. It is our commitment that children in kinship care receive the very best start in life, and children who have experienced the loss or removal of their parents achieve personal happiness and well being, and fulfil their potential.

Our long-term commitment is that every kinship carer, irrespective of where they live, or the legal status of the arrangement will have access to a range of support services to help and support them in their kinship role. We will continue to evaluate our services alongside our stakeholders, funders, volunteers, kinship carers and their children and continue to offer kinship carers and their children a voice and choice as to how services can meet their needs.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Services Delivered

- 2,639 people came through our 5 Kinship Care Centres.
- Handled 636 calls via our tCaring for Kin telephone helpline.
- Provided emergency food packages and essentials via our KIND and Good Help Projects to 178 carers/individuals and 189 children and young people..
- Secured £61,255 in social security benefit/other financial support for kinship carers, lifting them and the children they care for out of situations of severe poverty.
- Provided advice to 99 kinship carers on their legal and financial entitlements.
- Engaged 1,007 children in group activities.
- Engaged 61 young people in structured activities via our THRIVE Project.
- Delivered 62 Summer Activities to 448 carers and 714 children and young people.
- Provided advice, information and support to 67 children via our Advocacy Service.
- 478 kinship carers and 572 children engaged in services via our 'Kinnections' Project.
- Distributed 408 Helping Hand Grants in respect of 896 children and young people.
- Engaged 88 children in one to one support.
- Engaged 81 children in play based activities via our Children's Support Service
- Engaged 17 sibling carers and 38 children in our Together Forever Project for older brothers and sisters caring for their younger siblings and a further 87 children in sibling time activities.
- Provided toys and gifts to 879 children in kinship care and 162 children in the community at Christmas and distributed £3,455 in vouchers to 53 families in respect of 97 children.
- Set up Helping Hand Project and provided immediate and practical support to 298 carers/households and 411 children.
- Opened new Kinship Care Centre in Belfast (Unit, 1B 471-473 Antrim Road).
- Continued our School of Confidence Futures Project and engaged 321 young people in CPD accredited training, workshops and work taster sessions.
- Engaged 67 children and young people from different backgrounds and communities in a Kinship Care Good Relations Project.
- Engaged 34 children in weekly Grandparent and Toddler sessions and delivered 11 Confidence Building Programmes to 89 young people ('Youth Champions', Kreative Kins and . Mini Kins')
- Engaged 166 kinship carers in 'Kin Together' support group meetings and activities.
- Delivered training, workshops and information sessions to 147 kinship carers.
- Delivered befriending and emotional support to 139 kinship carers/children in their own homes.
- Supported 113 carers via our Caring for Carers Project for carers in Strabane and L'Derry. engaging 97 carers in Kin Together Support Group sessions, training and family recreation.
- Engaged and delivered structured interventions to 67 children and young people via the MACE Project (Dungannon, Strabane and L'Derry).
- Recruited and trained and supported 39 volunteers and 8 sessional workers.
- Provided 267 individuals and families with free items via our Kindness of Strangers shop.
- Set up new Kindness of Strangers shops in Cookstown and Omagh.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

- Held Information Days, Coffee Mornings and fundraising events to raise awareness of kinship care and attended numerous Cost of Living events.
- Commissioned Dr. Katrina Collins (Collins Consultancy) to carry out a 3 year evaluation of our Children's Support Service and Kinnections Project.
- Commissioned Consult NB to carry out an external evaluation of our Community School of Futures Project, funded by the UK Community Renewal Fund.
- Shared our learning of kinship care through various workshops and groups, including Family Support Hub Meetings, Helplines Network NI Awareness Day, Good Help Workshops and articles in the Belfast Telegraph, Mid Ulster Mail, Derry Journal, Your Magazine and Families First Magazine.
- Worked alongside Global Film Makers to capture the voices, views and experiences of young people engaged in our Community School of Futures Project.
- Celebrated International Women's Day, Social Value Week, Volunteer Week, Small Charity Week, Entrepreneurship Week and #socialaturday.
- Increased our social media presence on Facebook and Twitter.

Our services work in partnership with local organisations, including social service departments. For example, in L'Derry our Children's Support Service and Kinship Care Support Service work closely with the Gateway Team, Family Intervention Service, Family and Kinship Fostering Team to support kinship carers and children and young people who are struggling to come to terms with the loss or removal of their parents. In Magherafelt our 'Caring for Kin' Project works with solicitors, the Social Security Agency, Health Visitors and schools and receives referrals from a range of community sector organisations. Our 'Kinnections' Project receives referrals from social work professionals across Northern Ireland and social sector organisations working with disadvantaged children and families in the community.

Achievements and Performance

Throughout the year Kinship Care NI continued to provide advice, information, support and family recreation to kinship carers and their children across Northern Ireland. Our helpline and 'Kin Together' Support Groups have been instrumental in engaging kinship carers, particularly grandparents and older kinship carers who feel isolated and overwhelmed with everything that is going on in their lives including dealing with the long-term impact of COVID-19.

Evide Impact Tracker (Case Management Tool) and New Philanthropy Capital's Well Being Measures are used across all our projects and services to measure and evaluate our impact on the outcomes of children, young people and their carers. Surveys, comment

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

cards, focus groups, video diaries and testimonials are also used to measure the impact of interventions on the overall wellbeing of kinship carers and the children they care for. 'Quizzdom' is also used to gather feedback from children and young people engaged in services.

Helpline

Over the course of the year 636 calls were handled by our helpline. Following one call made to helpline based on completed helpline surveys (n = 141):-

- 86% of kinship carers said they felt more confident.
- 94% of kinship carers understood their situation better.
- 95% of kinship carers reported feeling less isolated.
- 84% of kinship carers felt that their problem was sorted out.
- 16% of kinship carers still felt unsure.

Based on questions asked at the end of calls to the helpline (n = 141):-

- 88% rated the Helpline as "Excellent".
- 90% said the information they received was useful and of good quality.
- 88% said staff members understood their needs.

Evaluations

Throughout the year we evaluated our impact on the financial, social and emotional of carers and their children. Carers were asked to complete a short questionnaire and wellbeing to outline how we responded to their needs and the quality of support they received.

Based on questions asked at the end of support sessions/home visits and one to one support via Zoom or telephone (n = 146) 82% of carers said they had experienced an improvement in their overall wellbeing and 226 out of 226 carers who received support via our KIND and Helping Hand Projects said their financial well-being had improved.

Other (Surveys, Focus Groups, Comment Cards, Testimonials)

- 84% of kinship carers attending Kin Together Support Groups said they felt less isolated and 80% of kinship carers reported an improvement in their emotional/social wellbeing (n = 106).
- 85% of kinship carers said the training they received was of good quality and 88% said they would recommend our training to other kinship carers (n = 125).
- 100% of kinship carers who received a grant reported an improvement in family life (n = 226).
- 86% of children reported an improvement in their confidence and 88% reported an improvement in their emotional well-being (n=162).
- 85% of children said they had had a say in decisions affecting their lives (n=117).

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

During the course of the year, 57 volunteers made a huge impact on the lives of children and young people – 7,895 hours of their time (worth £84,476.50 to the organisation).

Volunteering at Kinship Care NI produces a tangible return for society, not only in terms of keeping children within their own families, but also helping children in kinship care fulfil their potential. We are enormously dependent on the contribution of volunteers and extremely grateful for their dedication. We are also grateful to the many trusts, foundations, businesses and individuals who have been so generous in their support of Kinship Care NI. We thank you for the many ways you have shown your commitment to us, for your encouragement and shared understanding of the importance of our work. Each gift, no matter how big or small, whether time or money makes a difference to our work with kinship carers and the children they care for.

During the year we focused specifically on supporting carers and children who were significantly impacted by COVID-19, including helping children catch up with their schooling and engaging carers who were isolated or living in more remote locations in Northern Ireland. Allen and Overy Solicitors provided us with £3,333 to engage young people in opportunities for education and the UK Community Renewal Fund provided us with a grant for our Community School of Futures Project. We also received several grants from Cash for Kids to purchase items for children to help with their schooling and enable children achieve their potential. Support was also provided by the American Ireland Fund and the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland (Older People's Fund and ARN Foundation) to allow us support carers and individuals in the community hit hardest by rising food and energy costs.

During the year income from charitable trusts and foundations helped support a variety of programmes and services for children, young people and their carers. We would like to thank the media and members of the public for highlighting and responding to individual appeals, including appeals for food, clothes, toys and household items for children who came to live with members of their extended family in very difficult and traumatic circumstances. Our funders and everyone who gives us gifts in kind and donations for children and young people have helped get us to where we are today. We are extremely grateful for your generosity and support.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Sharing Our Learning

Throughout the year we collaborated with 86 organisations and shared our learning of the needs and experiences of kinship carers and the children they care for. We are members of the All Party Group for Children and Young People, the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Young Carers Sub-Group, the Adoption and Children's Bill Stakeholder Group and CO3's Health and Social Care Special Interest Group. Over the course of the year we further developed our relationship with the Department of Health and 5 Health and Social Care Trusts to raise the profile of kinship care and ensure the needs of children and their carers are not overlooked in forthcoming policy developments.

Kinship Care NI sit on 5 Family Support Hubs in the Western Trust, 5 in the Northern Trust, 3 in the Belfast Trust, 1 in the South Eastern Trust and 1 in the Southern Trust. These Hubs comprise a multi-agency network of organisations working with disadvantaged families. Through our involvement with these networks we share our knowledge and expertise of kinship care and improve awareness of the support needs of kinship families living in the community. Over the course of the year we met with politicians, policy makers and social service professionals and engaged them in discussion about the many challenges experienced by kinship carers and how their needs could be best met moving forward.

Across all our projects and services we use several outcome frameworks to measure, monitor and evaluate our impact in supporting kinship carers and their children. Kinship care can be complex and the support needs of carers and the children they care for are very different to other families. Evidencing our work has raised awareness of the services we offer and provided a better understanding of the importance of kinship care as an early intervention for children and their families.

We seized every opportunity to inform others of our work and the many achievements of children and young people in kinship care. 5,890 copies of our bi-monthly newsletter 'Kinship News' were distributed to individuals and organisations. 8,650 emails/letters went out informing of our services, events, achievements and successes.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Plans for Future Periods

In 2023/24 we will continue to develop and deliver high quality, responsive and inclusive services to kinship carers and children and young people in kinship care and work with kinship carers to identify the types of support they need and want in a way which promotes the best interests of the children and young people they care for. We will listen to and act on the voices of children and young people and ensure their voices are heard, valued, respected and listened to, and seize every opportunity to celebrate the achievements and successes of children, young people and their carers.

We will further develop our support services and develop a range of awareness raising literature to ensure kinship carers have information on their rights and entitlements when raising a family or friends child. We will continue to consult with children and young people in kinship care to ensure all projects and services are in keeping with their needs and aspirations, ensuring the voices of children, young people are heard. We will ensure risk is well understood and managed and that the charity is operating legally, that we are maximising our income and operating in full compliance with our charitable objectives, ethos and values.

Recruitment and Appointment of Directors

The Directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. The traditional business skills, along with service users, community and voluntary groups are well represented on the Board of Directors and the Directors are requested to provide an updated list of skills they are able to bring to the company each year and in the event of particular skills being lost due to retirements, individuals are approached to offer themselves for election to the Board of Directors.
Directors.

Trustees Induction and Training

New trustees are invited to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. Briefing sessions jointly led by the Chairperson and the Chief Executive cover:

- The obligations of trustees.
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity, including the memorandum and articles.
- Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts.
- Future plans and objectives as set out in the charity's Strategic Plan 2021-24.

All Trustees receive an Enhanced Access NI check and training on Child Protection, Vulnerable Adults, Lone Working, Health and Safety, Complaints and Equal Opportunities. Training on Good Governance, Managing Performance, Risk Management, Strategic Planning and GDPR is also provided to Trustees.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

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Risk Management

The Board of Trustees conduct on a regular basis a review of major risks to which the charity is exposed. This review is updated annually. Where appropriate, systems and procedures are established or updated to mitigate the risks the charity faces. Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a new Fundraising Strategy and the establishment of three social enterprises to allow for alternative funding methods for the charity's activities. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of comprehensive procedures for the authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety rules for staff, volunteers and visitors. All policies and procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure they meet with the needs of the charity and changes to the law.

Organisational Structure

The Board of Directors meets 6 times a year and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. The trustees have ultimate legal and financial responsibility for the affairs of Kinship Care NI, although the management of the organisation has generally been delegated to the staff, through the Chief Executive (Jacqueline Williamson).

Formal Objectives and Activities

The company's objects and principal activities are to:

- Work for the assistance of persons involved in a kinship care arrangement.
- Promote any charitable purpose directed to alleviating problems associated with kinship care arrangements.
- Advance public education in factors associated with kinship care.
- Provide individual and group support to kinship carers and their children.
- Raise awareness amongst the general public of factors associated with kinship care.
- Provide a support service to those who are currently involved with a person undertaking or involved in kinship care.
- Provide and equip premises and centres required for the purposes of the company to organise, sponsor and conduct educational and training courses and meetings, conferences and exhibitions.
- Publish and distribute materials relating to the work of the company.
- Collect, coordinate and make available (by publication or any form of communication) information relative to the activities of the company.
- Receive and administer and allocate grants and gifts available to the company under the terms and conditions attached to such grants and gifts.
- Act as trustees and to undertake or accept any such tasks or responsibilities which will advance the objects of the company

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Winding Up

Upon the winding up or dissolution of the company, any surplus shall be given to some other body, institution or institutions charitable in law and having objects similar to the objects of Kinship Care NI, which also prohibit the distribution of income or property to its members. No sum whatsoever shall be distributed to members of the company.

Financial Review

Results

The company had a surplus on unrestricted funds for the year ended 31st March 2022 of £36,208 (surplus of £21,971 for year ended 31st March 2022). During the year to the 31st March 2023 the company was in receipt of grants from BBC Children in Need, the Trusthouse Foundation and the Henry Smith Charity in respect of specified services to be provided to kinship carers and their children in areas across Northern Ireland.

Fundraising

Most funding to date has come from charitable trusts and foundations via applications made by the Chief Executive with input from Trustees and staff. The Board of Trustees have delegated responsibility for fundraising, including areas of revenue fundraising to the Chief Executive who reports regularly to Trustees on the financial and fundraising performance of the organisation.

BBC Children in Need, the Trusthouse Foundation, Department of Justice, John Moores Foundation, Julia and Hans Rausing Trust, American Ireland Fund, UK Community Renewal Fund, Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, RTE Toy Show Appeal Enakalon Foundation, Thomas Wall Trust and Cordis Charitable Trust made a substantial contribution to the work of by funding a School of Confidence Futures Programme for young people, our Caring for Carer's Project', KIND Project, Helping Hand Project and a Good Help Project.

Five key strategies have been identified as priority focuses for the forthcoming year:-

1. Diversification – diversify the fundraising base of Kinship Care NI to reduce dependency on key grants.
2. New Activity – plan, deliver and learn from a new fundraising activity through a Crowd Funding event.
3. Expansion – consider, plan, deliver and develop a strategy for locating in Belfast and the Republic of Ireland.
4. Corporate Donators – grow the understanding of Kinship Care NI's work and identify new corporate donors outside of Derry/Londonderry.
5. Volunteer Support – grow the understanding of volunteers in Kinship Care NI's work and its impact.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Investment Policy

Any surplus funds and grants received in advance are placed on deposit until such time as they are required for day to day expenditure.

Reserves Policy

Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be 3 months of total cost. Each year the Trustees review the policy for maintaining free reserves taking into account the major risks faced by the charity. The likely impact on income and planned expenditure includes a review of the planned expenditure and expected incomes and an assessment of the ways to mitigate such risks.

At 31st March 2023 the company had reserves of £36,208

Risk Review

Internal controls are in place to monitor all forms of income, assets, commitment and expenditure. Performance is monitored and appropriate information is prepared and regularly reviewed by the Chief Executive and Board of Trustees. The charity currently produces an annual budget and reports six weekly against that budget. Updated financial forecasting is undertaken during the year to reflect new service developments and their impact on income and expenditure. The principal risk facing the charity is the uncertain external economic environment and the need to sustain services once funding from the Big Lottery Fund comes to an end. The Trustees confirm that they have identified and fully understand the risks to which the charity is subject and that systems are in place to manage these risks.

Employment of Disabled Persons

The company is committed to a policy of recruitment and promotion on the basis of aptitude and ability without negative discrimination of any kind. Kinship Care NI actively pursues both the employment of disabled persons whenever a suitable vacancy arises and the continued employment and retraining of employees who become disabled whilst employed by the charity. Where a current employee or volunteer becomes disabled due to illness or injury the charity, wherever possible and reasonable, will provide assistance with rehabilitation, adaptation to premises, modification of equipment, provision of special aids, job structuring, retraining and/or redeployment

Employees

Kinship Care NI is lucky to have an exceptional team of 9 dedicated staff, whose support has been invaluable in developing and delivering services to children and young people, their carers and families. Over the year, Kinship Care NI made great efforts to ensure employees were kept informed about and involved in the direction of the charity.

Plans for Future Periods

The charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

.....continued

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the Directors of Kinship Care NI to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources, including income and expenditure for the financial year.

In preparing those accounts, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that Kinship Care NI will continue on that basis.

The Directors are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the relevant Companies legislation. The Directors are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities

Members of the Board of Directors

Members of the Board of Directors who are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law, and who were directors at 31 March 2023 are set out on page 3.

Auditors

L Duffy & Co. have expressed their willingness to continue as auditors.

Approved by the Directors on the 28th January 2024 and signed on their behalf by:-



Brenda Stevenson (Chair)



Paul McMinn (Treasurer)

Kinship Care Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101036

Annual return

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2023

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report (Report of The Directors), other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2023

...continued

statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or

we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 66 of that Act.

We have undertaken the audit in accordance with the requirements of FRC Ethical Standards including FRC Ethical Standard – Provisions Available for Audits of Small Entities, in the circumstances set out in note 18 to the financial statements.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2023
...continued**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We considered the risk of fraud through management override, and in response we incorporated testing of their use of accounting estimates, and remained sceptical throughout the audit.
- We tested controls over expenditure and income and verified the physical existence of fixed assets.
- We also tested the work done on new build against projected costs to ensure work was done within budget

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kinship Care Northern Ireland Ltd for The Year Ended 31 March 2023
...continued**

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Mr Laurie Duffy
(Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of
L Duffy & Co
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor



28 January 2024

L Duffy & Co are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the companies Act 2006